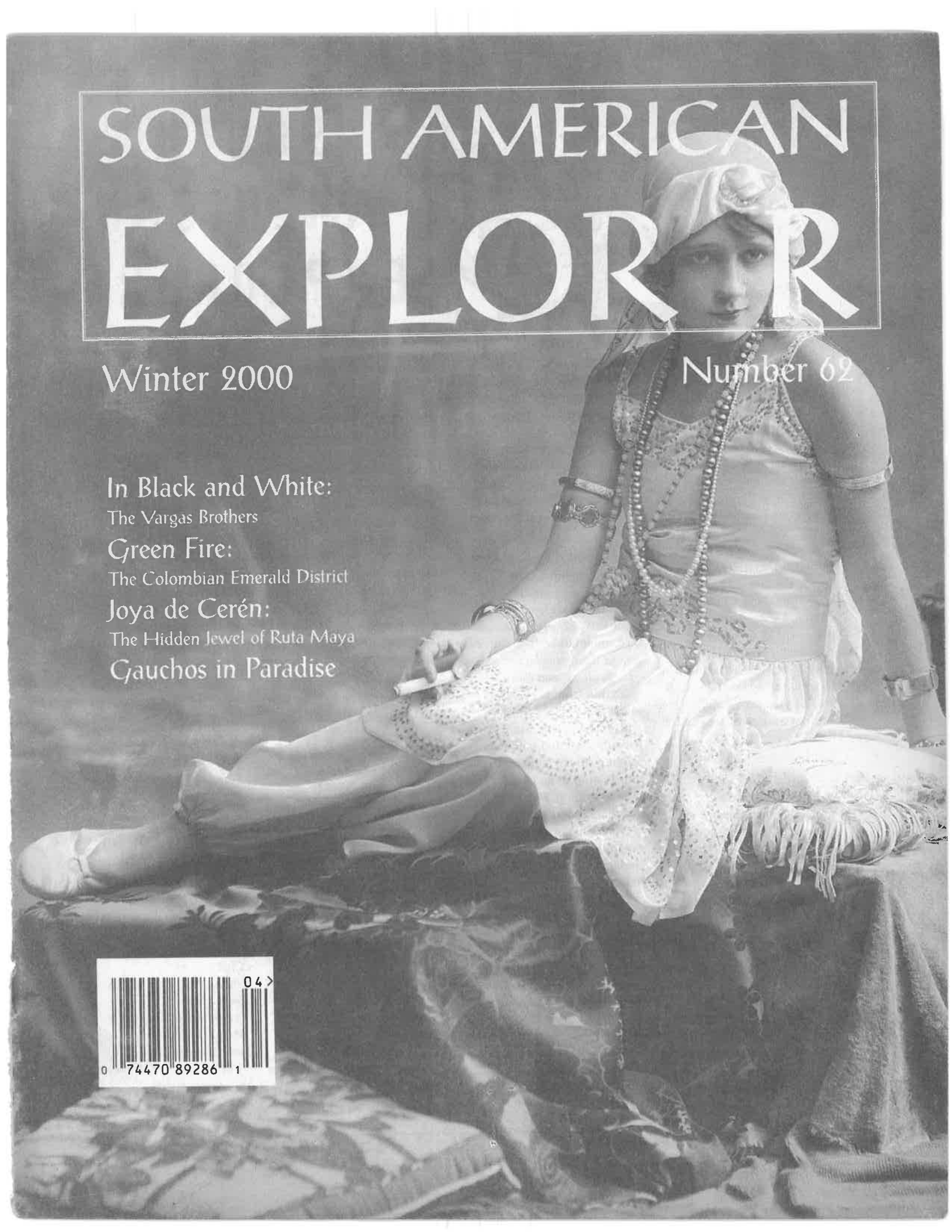
SOUTH AMERICAN EXPLORER

Winter 2000

Number 62



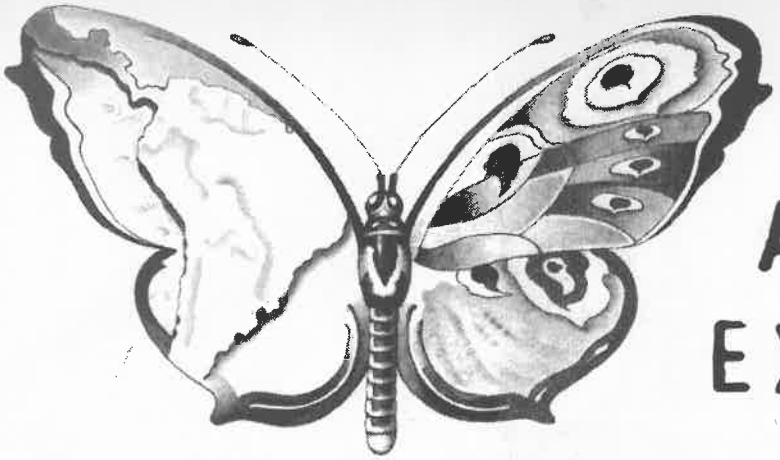
In Black and White:
The Vargas Brothers

Green Fire:
The Colombian Emerald District

Joya de Cerén:
The Hidden Jewel of Ruta Maya

Gauchos in Paradise

04>
0 74470 89286 1



SOUTH AMERICAN EXPLORERS

South American Explorers

SAE is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. With clubhouses in Cusco and Lima, Peru and Quito, Ecuador, and U.S. headquarters in Ithaca, New York, SAE collects and makes available to its members up-to-date, reliable information about Central and South America.

Membership is US $40 ($70 couple) per year. Residents outside the U.S. add US $10 (US $7 for Canada) for postage. Those wishing to sign up in the United Kingdom can join through Bradt Publications (Please allow 4-6 weeks to receive membership cards), 41 Nortoft Road, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks SL9 OLA, U.K.

Aims and Purposes:

SAE is dedicated to:

- Furthering the exchange of information among travelers and researchers.
- Promoting responsible travel through publication of pamphlets, information packets, the Internet, and its magazine, the South American Explorer.
- Publicizing projects aimed at improving social and environmental conditions in Latin America and collecting funds for their activities.
- Awakening greater interest and appreciation for the welfare of endangered peoples, wildlife protection, and wilderness conservation.
- Collecting information on volunteer and research opportunities.
- Fostering ties between non-profit organizations, NGO's, conservation groups, and other socially and environmentally active organizations.

South American Explorer:

A 64-page quarterly magazine with articles on adventure travel, scientific discovery, history, archaeology, mountaineering, native peoples, languages, anthropology, geology, and more.

Membership Services include:

Knowledgeable Staff: Our friendly staff and volunteers provide advice and practical information to members.

Networking: We assist members seeking travel companions for a trip/ expedition, or seeking to contact experts in a particular field.

Trip Reports: Trip Reports provide specialized information on just about everything—climbing Aconcagua, volunteering, learning Spanish, lining up a local tour operator, white-water rafting, hiking the Darien Gap, visiting the Galapagos, etc.

Maps: The Club maintains a collection of topographical, geological and road maps for member use and purchase.

Lending Library: There is an extensive library of both English and Spanish books at Clubhouses in Quito, Lima, and Cusco.

Merchandise for sale: Books, maps, tapes, T-shirts and other items are on sale at Clubhouses or through the Club's catalog.

Trip planning: Members can call upon the SAE for help and trip planning information.

Discounts: Members receive discounts from many local tour operators, hotels and language schools.

Additional Member Services at Quito, Lima, and Cusco Clubhouses:

Equipment Storage, Mail, Phone and Fax Service, Book Exchange Library, Message Board, E-mail Service.

South American Explorers Catalog:

The annual catalog contains books, maps, and language tapes. Please call or write the Ithaca office to request a copy of the latest catalog. Include $3.00 if the catalog is to be mailed outside the U.S.

To join the SAE:

Contact us at our U.S. headquarters, use the order form on page 63, or sign up at one of the clubhouses.

Website: http://www.samexplo.org

U.S. Headquarters
126 Indian Creek Road,
Ithaca, NY 14850 USA
Phone: (607) 277-0488
Fax: (607) 277-6122
E-mail:
explorer@samexplo.org

Quito Clubhouse
Jorge Washington 311,
Quito, Ecuador
Phone/fax: (593) 2 225-228
Staff e-mail:
explorer@saec.org.ec
Member e-mail:
member@saec.org.ec
(Put member's full name in subject field)

Lima Clubhouse
Av. Republica de Portugal 146, Breña,
Lima, Peru
Phone/fax: (511) 425-0142
Staff e-mail:
montague@terra.com.pe
Member e-mail:
montague@terra.com.pe
(Put member's full name in subject field)

Cusco Clubhouse
930 Avenida del Sol,
Cusco, Peru
Phone/fax: (51 84) 223-102
Staff E-mail:
saec@amauta.rcp.net.pe
Member E-mail:
saec@amauta.rcp.net
(Put member's full name in subject field)

SOUTH AMERICAN EXPLORER

Editor
Don Montague

Associate Editor
Andi Forker

Contributing Editors
Daniel Buck
Federico B. Kirbus
Anne Meadows
D. Bruce Means
Maralyn Polak
Dominic Hamilton

Design Director
Lou Robinson

Manager
Saoirse McClory

Business Manager
Vicky Williamson

LIMA CLUBHOUSE

Manager
Tamara Houston

QUITO CLUBHOUSE

Manager
Boz Smith

Assistant Manager
Alicia Guzman

CUSCO CLUBHOUSE
Acting Manager
Lorraine Alcock

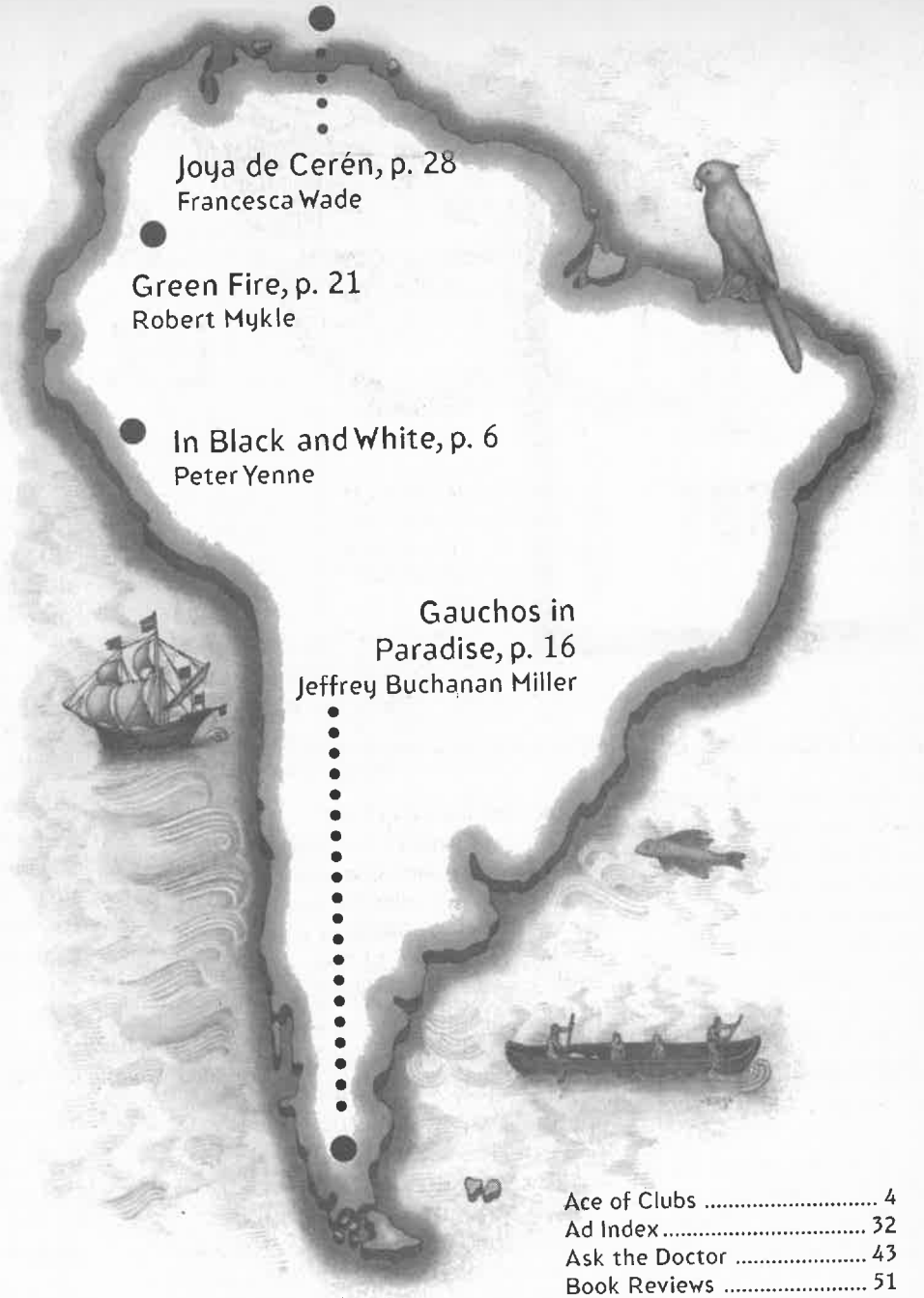
Director of Latin American Affairs
Melanie Ebertz

Records Supervisor w/o portfolio
Craig Sorensen

Advisors
Hilary Bradt
Jean Brown
Tim Cahill
Nelson Carrasco
John W. Davidge III
Eleanor Griffis de Zúñiga
Gregory Deyermenjian
Paolo Greer
John Hemming
Geoffrey Hird
Leighton Klein
Forest Leighty
Loren McIntyre
Joanne Omang
Rob Rachowiecki
Maruja Reyes
David Smith
Virginia Smith
Gerald Starbuck
Humberto Valdivia

Legal Advisor
J. Michael Dowling

Youth Advisors
Finnegan Luca Cobb Boyle
Zachary James Montague



Ace of Clubs 4
Ad Index 32
Ask the Doctor 43
Book Reviews 51
Classifieds 54
Club News 44
Corner Store 58
Cyberpage 52
Letters 5
Maps 60
News Shorts 46
South American Explorers ... 50
Tips & Notes 56

Cover: Photograph by the Vargas Brothers. Courtesy of Jaime Laso and Roxana Chirinos, all rights reserved.

The *South American Explorer* is the quarterly journal of the South American Explorers Club, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation located at 126 Indian Creek Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, telephone (607) 277-0488. A one-year subscription is U.S. $22.00, additional $10.00 ($7.00 for Canada) for overseas postage. No part of this publication may be reproduced without prior written consent of the publisher. All statements in articles and advertisements are those of the authors and advertisers and do not necessarily represent the views of the South American Explorers Club or the *South American Explorer*. Copyright © 2000. All Rights reserved. Lima, Peru Clubhouse: Casilla 3714, Lima 100, Peru (street address: Avenida Republica de Portugal 146, Breña, Lima), telephone (511) 425-0142. Quito, Ecuador Clubhouse: Apartado 17-21-431, Eloy Alfaro, Quito, Ecuador, (street address: Jorge Washington 311 y L. Plaza, Quito), telephone (5932) 225-228. Cusco, Peru Clubhouse: Apartado 500, Cusco, Peru (street address: 930 Avenida del Sol, Cusco), telephone (51 84) 223-102. Reprints of articles are available from the Ithaca office. Unsolicited articles must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope; photographs should be insured or registered. Neither the South American Explorers Club nor the *South American Explorer* is responsible for material lost or damaged in the mail. Website: http://www.samexplo.org. The South American Explorers Club is not affiliated with The Explorers Club.™

The Tripe Has Spoken

"Survivor." My god it's addictive. Who would guess that the TV show that swept the nation could take over the South American Explorers, not just here in Ithaca, mind you, but in Cusco, Quito and Lima. You had to be under a rock not to know the rules of "Survivor". They're basic enough anyway. There are two tribes to start. Each week, one member of each tribe gets voted off the island by their tribal brothers and sisters. Here's how you survive on this dog-eat-dog island:

- Get temporary immunity by winning a "challenge", usually some worthless test of endurance.
- Do something totally disgusting to garner the esteem of your fellow low-lives.
- Indulge your baser instincts by engaging in all sorts of slimy back-stabbing and betrayal.

Staff changes? Take a peek at the masthead of the *South American Explorer*. Few survived. Most got squeezed out. We can't go into **all** of the scummy dealings, acts of disloyalty and ratty deeds, but here's the dirt in brief.

The chirpy Pamela, once Associate Editor, got booted out immediately. She might have survived, but balked at eating a rat. No rat, no immunity. That very morning, before Pamela could take down her dog pictures and clear out, Business Manager Vicky won the immunity talisman by gulping down a slug-like creature found slithering up the back of the microwave.

"That's no big deal for Vicky," said the new Associate Editor Andi. "She's the kind that would eat it while baring it all in *Hustler*, sleazy little lens-louse that she is."

"Andi's just miffed because she spent the summer sucking up but still got snubbed out of Vicky's Mafioso Alliance," sneered Lou, the Artistic Director. And it really galled her who actually got in—Todd the FedEx creep and Don, the Editor-in-Chief who's taken to traipsing around the office in the buff. The conniving Special Project Coordinator Ellen briefly exhibited great cunning at cobbling together a counter-alliance. But her gang crumbled when one of the members showed unexpected remorse and another succumbed to a fatal twinge of decency.

Don's wife Marianne's scurrilous remarks effectively alienated all who might have supported her at the tribal council. Zach, recruited by both staff factions as a freelance snitch, gleefully squealed on his own mother before the Wednesday afternoon meeting. "She's on the phone again pre-testing pithy zingers for the final tribal council; 'I am the snake and you are the rat. The snake eats the rat in the end.'"

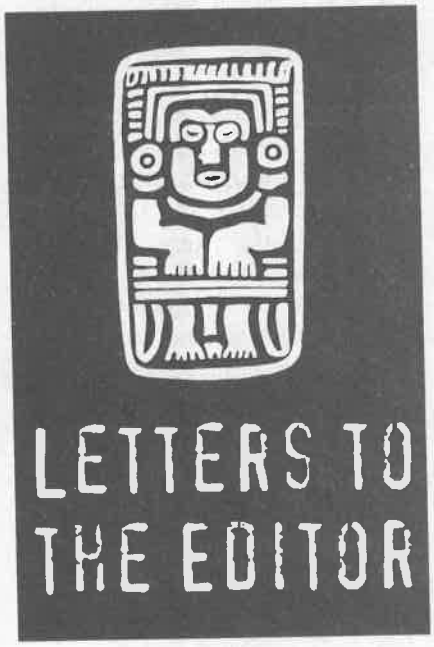
By the third week most everyone regretted the decision to imitate the TV show and not shower or engage in other acts of personal hygiene. The result: a sickening stench that permeated the office, a stink smellable out in the parking lot and beyond.

Did everybody on the staff jump into the "Survivor" sewer? No, Office Manager Saoirse declined to throw mud and bad mouth her coworkers. She even volunteered to soothe tribal differences and console the often humiliated and stunned losers, despite universal staff ridicule. For a short time, Information Specialist Susan sided with Saoirse until she, too, got caught up in the bitter infighting and quickly turned on her daughter, the Administrative Assistant Kelsey, in hopes of fending off banishment, at least for another week.

Who won? To everyone's surprise Ryan, the Computer Science intern, outlasted the pack. Ryan displayed a low and ruthless cunning, combined with an oily genius for unsavory political intrigue. In the end, one and all came to hate Ryan's guts but he still came out on top by dividing his enemies. His most effective weapons turned out to be rumor and character assassination, but he will be remembered best for smearing Vaseline on the bathroom door handle, effectively trapping alliance-leader Vicky inside during a critical vote.

Despite some lingering resentments, things have returned to normal here on "the island". With Ryan doing 8

periods back at Ithaca High School, we threw out the last tiki torch this morning. Unexpurgated, full-length, X-rated videos of the SAE tribal council 2-hour finale are available for $40.00, plus postage and handling.



Dear Editor,

Loren McIntyre's article on the splendid follies of modern raft voyages into the Pacific (*Current Affairs*, Issue 61) was, at the same time, an inquiry into the human impulse to explore and a voyage into the mind of Samuel Taylor Coleridge. McIntyre's intrepid seamen might well have swum out of "The Ancient Mariner." As is so often the case, the reality is stranger than imagination. A cabin reeking of human resentments and cat droppings while the logs of the raft are devoured microgram by microgram by creatures of the doldrums may well have been beyond even Coleridge's opium-assisted imagination, but the poet provides the epigram: "Yea, slimy things did crawl with legs/ Upon the slimy sea."

Charles McCarry

To the Editor,

This letter is in response to *Lima Diary* by Daniel Gonzalo Alarcon, an article in Issue 61. Though eloquent, the article hardly describes the reality of the city. While the grim, poetic nature of the piece is captivating and romantic, it is also misleading.

The article recaps a conversation between the author and a cab driver who describes being robbed at gunpoint through a taxi window. This cabby's experience is used to depict life in the city.

As a resident of Lima, I find the tone of this article disturbing. Our perceptions are shaped by the norms of culture and daily life; to hold a different culture to similar norms or standards is to abandon all sense of pluralism, and (perhaps unintentionally) to embrace cultural imperialism. When this idea is applied to *Lima Diary*, Alacron's accusations sound condescending and misinformed. For example, it is true that one who expects rigid rules and defensive driving practices might find the chaos in Lima's streets loud and unsettling. However, one who is familiar with or open to different approaches to road travel might find beauty in the chaotic manner vehicles candidly dance through streets and plazas.

But the tone aside, the "factual" statistics and information in this article demand verification. Where is the citation for the "recent study" that proves a robbery happens every six seconds in Lima? Exactly how many dead female bodies are washed up on the beach each year? If it is statistically accurate to label a city of eight million residents a place of thieves and murderers, I should like to see that citation as well. Lastly, how can one man's experience reflect an accurate picture of life in a large and diverse city?

In future feature stories I would like to see a balanced mix of factual information and personal anecdotes.

A Concerned Reader

Dear Editor,

Yeaaaaaaa! Praise the Lord! Back to the old format!!! Tell me, does this mean you'll be going back to reformat issues 59 and 60 and will consequently be "resending" these two issues to all subscribers of the South American Explorer..... por nada?

Don Gray

Ed Note: No.

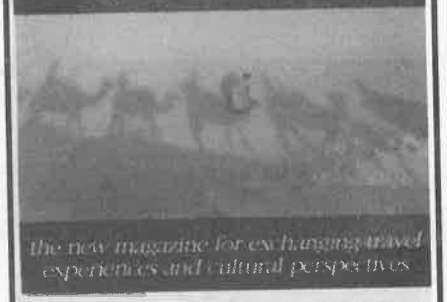
Dear Editor,

There is a filthy and hopefully untrue rumor that my wonderful club is seriously planning to hike membership dues on January 1, 2001 to $50 for a regular membership and $75 for a couple. Say it ain't so.

A Concerned Member

Ed Note: It's true.

abroad view

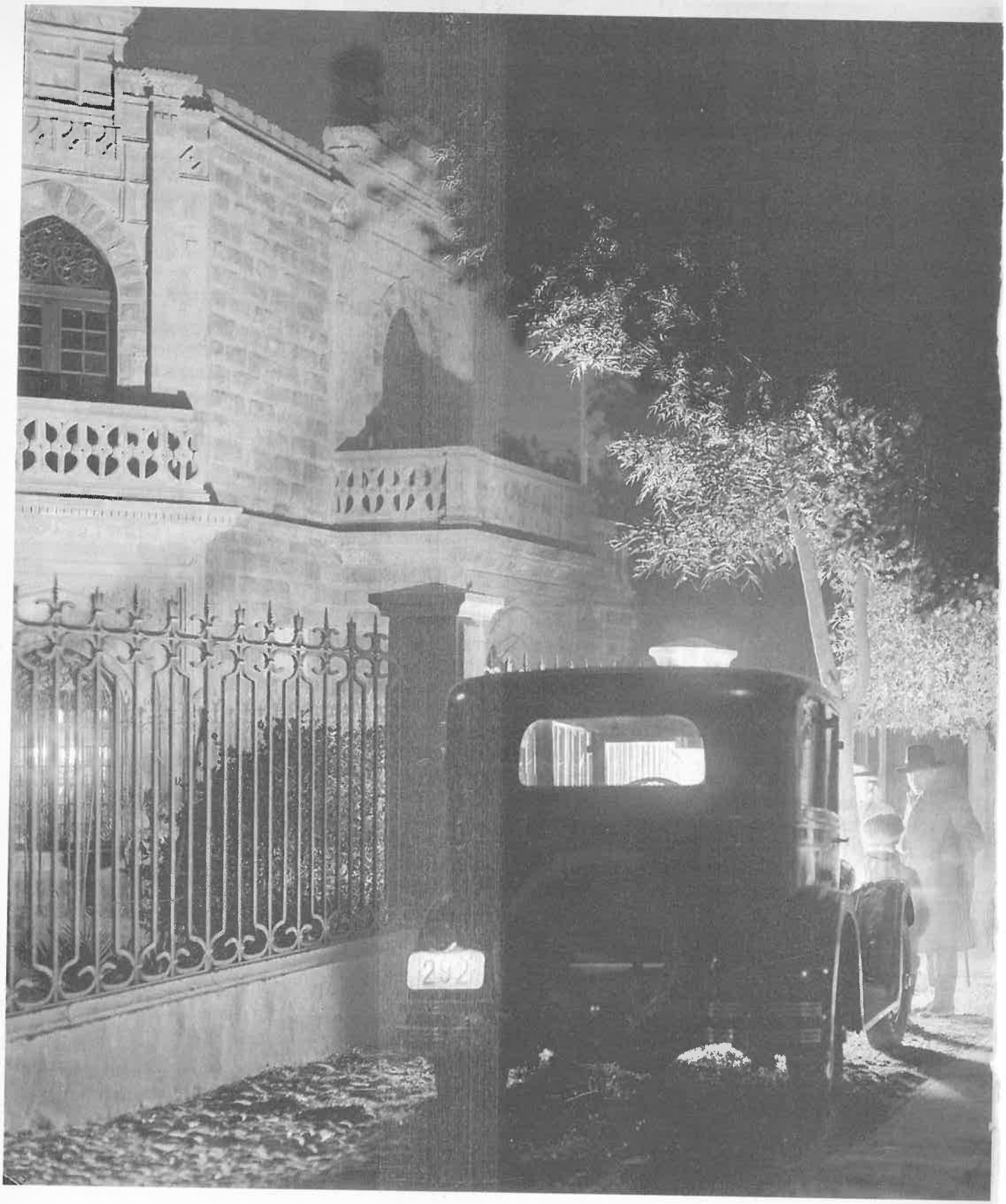


the new magazine for exchanging travel experiences and cultural perspectives

www.abroadviewmagazine.com

- unpretentious, in-depth and inspiring travel content
- feature articles and captivating photos covering a wealth of countries and communities
- cultural, environmental, historical, political and social issues
- tips, stories and useful travel info from fellow travelers

¡WRITE FOR AV, SUBSCRIBE TO AV!



A nocturno of the illuminated Avenida Parra.

In Black & White

The Vargas Brothers: Masters of Photography

Peter Yenne

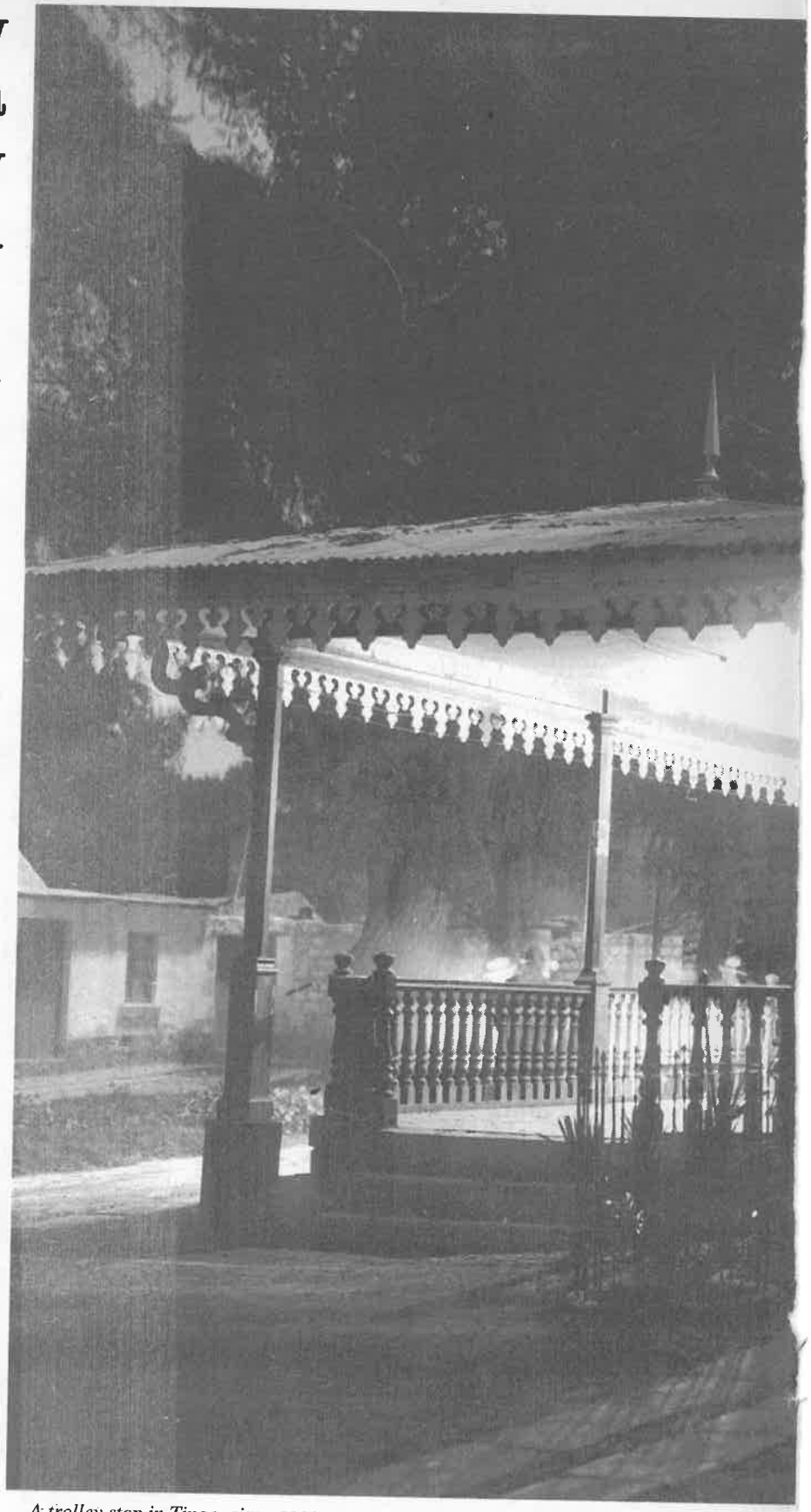
Long ago, on a moonlit night in the picturesque Peruvian city of Arequipa, strollers on the Bolognesi bridge witnessed a curious scene.

In the dry riverbed below, a group of elegantly dressed men in alpaca overcoats, Borsalino hats and spats stood stock-still. Some held lanterns, others crouched in conversation, one leaned against a pier of the bridge, staring fixedly at the stony ground.

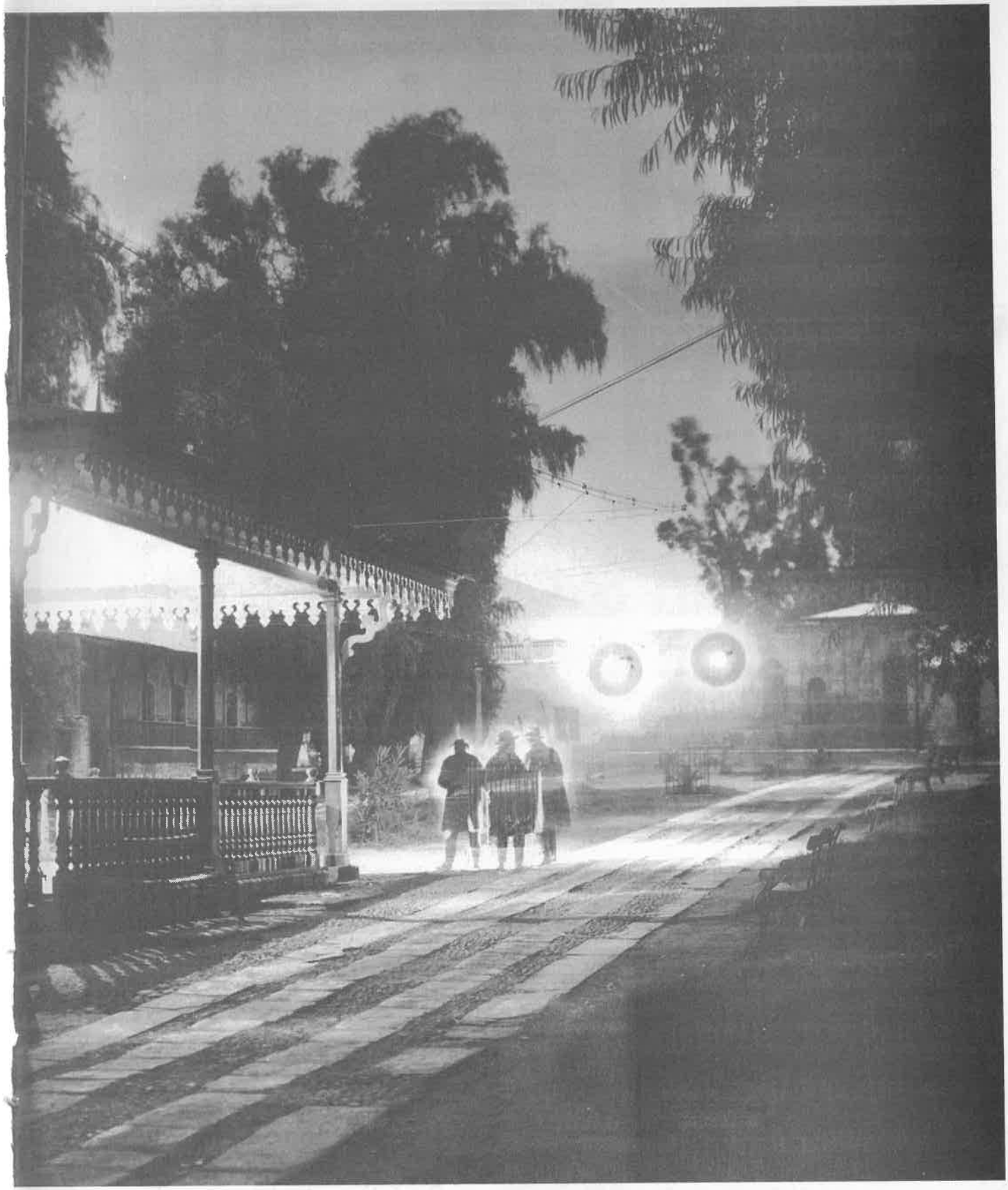
Across the river, a bonfire cast flickering shadows along the banks. For the better part of half an hour, no one moved.

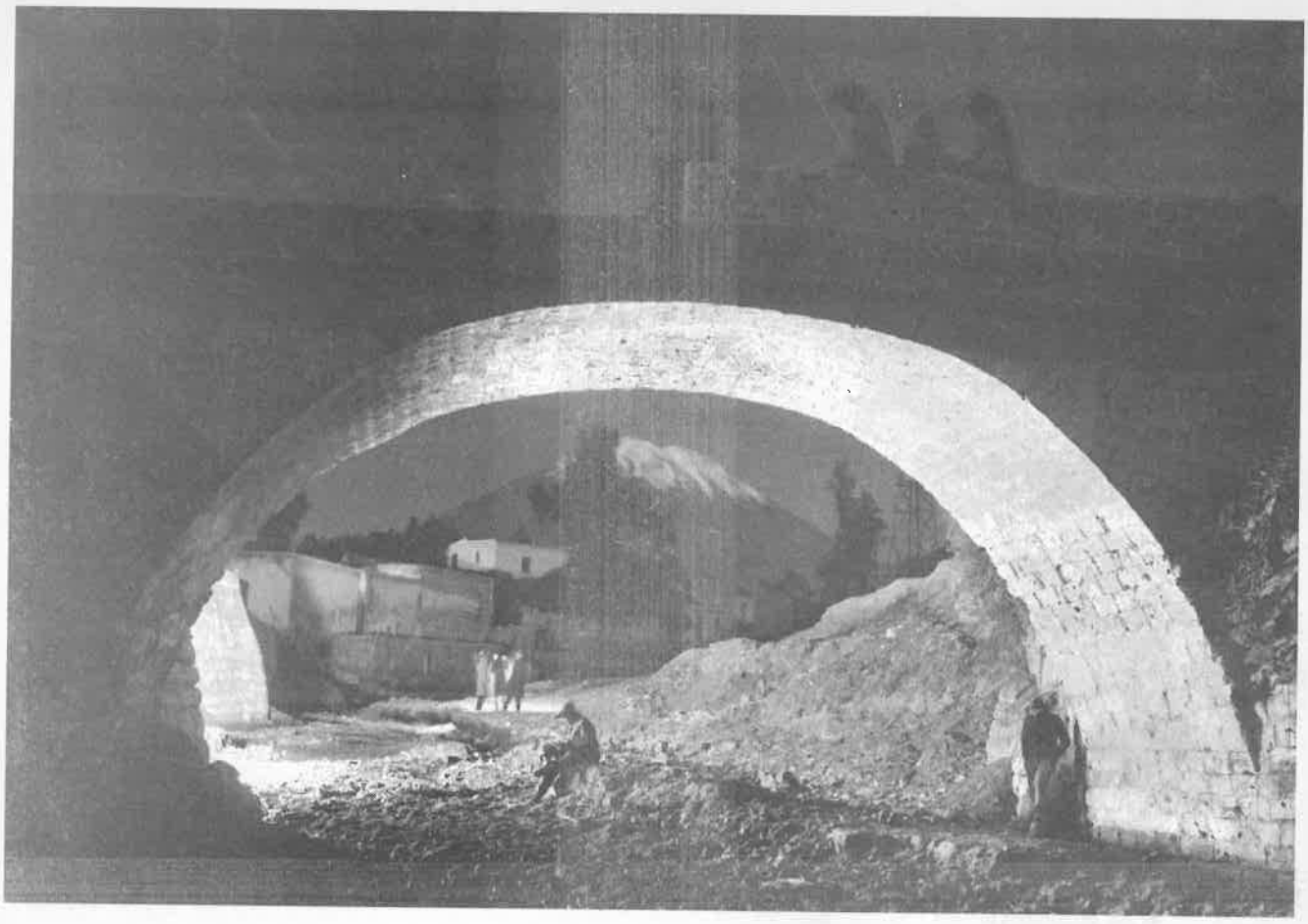
The key to this mystery sat on a tripod on the opposite side of the bridge: a large-format view camera, loaded with 5x7 glass plates, silently recorded the *tableau vivant*. In fact, as any well-informed Arequipeño would have known, there was a simple explanation for all this mysterious inactivity—the Vargas brothers were hard at work, creating another one of their celebrated *nocturnos*. The story behind these remarkable photographs and the artists who made them is the tale of a place and a time now nearly forgotten—the story of Arequipa during the Belle Epoque and the Jazz Age.

Born into modest circumstances in Arequipa in 1885 and 1886, Carlos and Miguel Vargas



A trolley stop in Tingo, circa 1930.





El Misti framed by a bridge.

Zaconet were quick to move up in the world. They enrolled at the Colegio Salesiano, where they won first prize in a school contest by building a working camera. This feat caught the eye of Maximiliano (Max) T. Vargas, whose photographic studio in Arequipa was then unrivalled in southern Peru and Bolivia.[1] While the family relationship (if any) remains obscure, it is clear that Vargas brothers worked as apprentices for the elder Vargas until 1912, when they went into business for themselves, directly across the Plaza de Armas from his studio.

The brothers' timing could not have been better. Arequipa was prospering from the growing trade in wool and alpaca, and new railroads and highways now linked it to the coast, Bolivia and Argentina. Peru had finally recovered from the devastating War of the Pacific with Chile, and foreign investment in mining, trade and manufacturing was growing rapidly. During the *Oncenio*, President Augusto Leguia's eleven-year term (1919-1930), Peru reached unprecedented levels of prosperity.

These years were the heyday of the *Estudio de Arte Vargas Hnos*. A vibrant economy, a wealth of new ideas and a fascination with European styles and Hollywood movies transformed this formerly isolated city, high in the Atacama Desert, into an oasis of cosmopolitan culture. The Vargas Bros. studio became a focal point of the city's cultural life. They hosted art exhibits, poetry readings and musical recitals in their beautifully appointed gallery, and served as the local distributors for the leading avant-garde magazines of the day, such as *La Sierra*. Consummate dandies, they wore the latest fashions and drove one of the first cars in Arequipa, which figures prominently in a number of their photographs. Whether strolling through the city, picnicking in the *campiña*, motoring across the desert or relaxing by the shore, they were always immaculately turned out in fedoras, suits, spats, gloves and canes. Carlos even sported a monocle. It was a glamorous era, and they lived it to the hilt.

To finance this luxurious lifestyle, the brothers built a thriving studio business. Renowned for their portraits, they also photographed schools, offices, factories, hospitals, social gatherings and civic events, documenting the many facets of urban life. Though the studio seems to have been a commercial hit from the beginning, the Vargas Bros. saw themselves as more than successful businessmen—they

Peter Yenne is a freelance photographer, curator and founder of the Photographic Archive Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of photographic collections in developing countries. He has been working on Peruvian photo archives since 1990, and is currently one of the three principal investigators on the EarthWatch "Portrait of Peru" project.

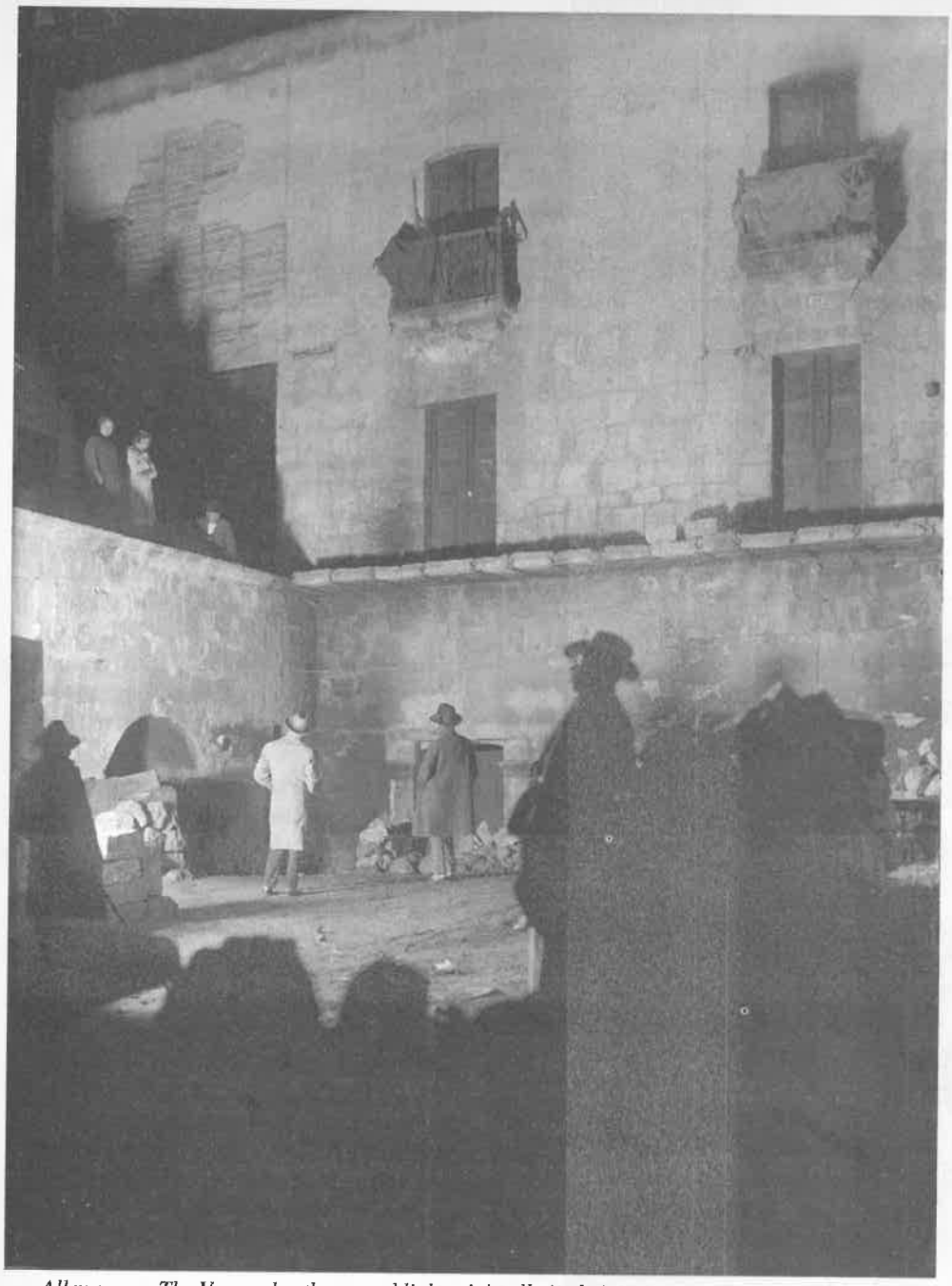
were artists. True bohemians, their friends included poets, painters and writers, and they were eager to prove that photography was an art, not just a journeyman craft. In Peru, as in most other countries, this was not a widely held view at the time. The brothers engaged in a series of spirited polemics with their critics, one of whom went so far as to say that anyone could take good pictures in a city as scenic and sunny as Arequipa. Carlos and Miguel took up the gauntlet, and in 1916, exhibited their first *nocturnos*. These meticulously staged, poetic and surreal views of Arequipa and the surrounding countryside were taken on moonlit nights, using long exposures and additional lighting from lanterns, bonfires, streetlamps, and flash powder. Reminiscent in some ways of the turn of the century pictorialist work of North American photographers such as Edward Steichen and Alfred Stieglitz, the Vargas' *nocturnos* were unprecedented in South America, and remained unequalled in Europe until the gifted Hungarian photographer Brassaï began photographing Paris at night in the '30s.

While these evocative images owe more than a passing debt to the silent screen and, in some cases, even seem to presage *film noir*, the influence of Hollywood and the Jazz Age reached its peak in the Vargas' portraits of women and entertainers. Nothing suited them better than photographing vamps and *femmes fatales*. Dancers, actors and vaudeville performers came from far and wide to have their pictures taken by the famous duo. The resulting images, which have all the earmarks of the Roaring Twenties, could just as easily been taken in Southern California as southern Perú. For readers whose image of Perú in the 20s is based mainly on the photos of Martín Chambi, these pictures will come as a revelation, reflecting a society more varied and complex than they would have ever imagined. Notoriously proud of its heritage, Arequipa was emphatically not part of the *mestizo* culture of Cusco and the high sierra—it belonged to the *criollo* society of the coast. Arequipa had earned its sobriquet, 'La Ciudad Blanca,' in more ways than one—its cultural allegiances were to Spain and Europe, not to the marginalized, dark-skinned masses who toiled in the fields and mines of the Altiplano. In the Vargas Brothers, the White City had found its new champions, and it seems likely that the real secret of their success lay in their ability to conjure up that idealized, Eurocentric dreamworld to which they and so many other Arequipeños so ardently aspired.

Girl in strapless dress: Isabel Sanchez Osorio.

As the fame of the Vargas Bros. grew, their achievements were recognized throughout South America and even in Europe. In 1925, they won a gold medal at the Primer Salon de Arte Fotográfico in Buenos Aires, and in 1928 they were featured at the Exposición Iberoamericana in Seville, Spain. Despite their success, the brothers rarely left their native city, and their one venture abroad seems to have been to La Paz, Bolivia.

With the coming of the Depression, Perú entered a long period of economic decline. Countless fortunes were wiped out, and the glittering society that had supported the brothers for nearly two decades gradually disappeared. The Vargas studio gradually adjusted to the new economic realities, but it, too, had changed. Gone were the elaborate props, the artful poses, the painted backdrops and the creativity that had been hallmarks of the *Estudio de Arte Vargas Hnos.*



Alley scene: The Vargas brothers used light minimally in their nocturno series.

In their place was a modern, stripped-down studio, with smaller, less cumbersome cameras, a predominately middle-class clientele, and a new, no-nonsense ethic. Henceforth, art would take a back seat to business.

The Vargas Bros. studio finally closed its doors in 1970. In January, 1976, Miguel Vargas died, followed by Carlos in June, 1979. They left behind an enormous collection of glass-plate negatives from the early years of the studio, stored in the family garage. The achievements of the Vargas Brothers, like those of many other pioneering Latin American photographers, were eventually forgotten, and what remained of their collection, stuffed into crumbling cardboard boxes, was ultimately relegated to a dusty cinderblock shack on the outskirts of Arequipa.

The Vargas' *nocturnos* were unprecedented in South America, and remained unequalled in Europe until the gifted Hungarian photographer Brassaï began photographing Paris at night in the '30s.

Girl with beaded garb: Rosalina Braide.

Nothing suited them better than photo-graphing vamps and *femmes fatales*

(For information used in this article, I am deeply indebted to Dr. Jaime Laso Vargas, Roxana Chirinos and Adelma Benavente Garcia. I would also like to thank my co-investigators, Dr. Michele Penhall and Adelma Benavente Garcia, and, above all, the dozens of EarthWatch volunteers whose selfless dedication, hard work and financial support made this project possible.)

[1] Despite his fame, only a fraction of his work survives and his archives have never been found. Their fate is one of the enduring mysteries of Andean photo history. An entire generation of talented Peruvian photographers served as his apprentices, including such prominent figures as Juan Manuel Figueroa Aznar and Martín Chambi. Today, Max T. Vargas is best known as the father of Alberto Vargas, the celebrated illustrator who created the 'Varga Girls' for *Esquire* and *Playboy*.

The Other

Girl with feathers: Helba Huara.

Vargas Girls

In view of Carlos and Miguel Vargas' penchant for sensuous, idealized portraits of women, it is tempting to speculate on the remarkable affinity between their work and that of Alberto Vargas. Ten years younger than Carlos and Miguel, Alberto, the son of Max T. Vargas, was groomed from an early age to take over his father's studio. There he worked with the Vargas brothers until 1911. As was the custom in well-to-do families at the time, Alberto and his brother, Max Jr., were sent to Europe to complete their educations. When war broke out, Alberto made plans to return home and sailed for New York. That was as far as he got—he fell in love with the city (and its women) and decided he could never go back to Peru. Max Jr. was forced to take his place in the family business. A few years later, Alberto landed a job as an illustrator for the Ziegfield Follies, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Back in Arequipa, the Vargas brothers carried on their own love affair with flappers and hoofers; photographing a stream of models, dancers, actors and vaudeville performers. To modern eyes, these pictures may verge on camp, but they are inspired camp, nonetheless. Society matrons, debutantes and dewy-eyed ingenues clamored to have their pictures taken. Even the city's prostitutes dropped by to pose for what they delicately referred to as their "curriculums". One of the studio's more famous clients was the Argentine dancer Helba Huara, who had her portrait taken in a variety of poses and costumes, presumably to use for publicity stills. Helba lived in Paris, where she catered to audiences' taste for the exotic by casting herself as a sort of Art Deco Inca princess. In Peru, she apparently turned the tables, dressing like Isadora Duncan and wowing the provinces with the latest European dance sensations. To console himself during Helba's occasional absences, her husband dallied with Anais Nin (but then again, who didn't?).

All photos courtesy of Dr. Jaime Laso and Roxana Chirinos, all rights reserved

Earth Watch

In the summer of 1999, five teams of volunteers, sponsored by the EarthWatch Institute for Field Research, came to Arequipa to rescue an extraordinary visual legacy—the work of the Vargas Brothers. For three months, a total of 44 volunteers, working under the supervision of Peruvian and American photo-historians, painstakingly cleaned and sorted nearly 15,000 glass plates and acetate negatives. More than 3,000 of these were selected to be digitally scanned and recorded on CD-ROMs, and an additional 2,000 images were recorded in a customized database.

Past EarthWatch photo projects include the ground-breaking 1977 study of the Chambi archives in Cusco, led by photographer Edward Ranney. This year, five EarthWatch teams scanned picture collections in Cusco, and next year, volunteers will be working in La Paz, Bolivia. The goal of this Andean imaging project, the first of its kind in Latin America, is to bring to light the amazing wealth of images that still lie hidden in these fascinating countries, and, in so doing, lay the foundations for the unwritten history of Latin American photography.

Readers interested in learning about the Vargas Brothers project and other EarthWatch efforts around the world can find additional information on the Web at **www.earthwatch.org.**

My destination was Estancia Harberton, the southernmost ranch in the world, only 700 miles from Antarctica at the tip of Tierra del Fuego.

In 1886, the Argentine government granted the land occupied by Estancia Harberton to the Reverend Thomas Bridges. The gift was in gratitude for the fifteen years the Reverend devoted to establishing an Anglican mission in Ushuaia, as well as his work towards building a peaceful relationship with the native inhabitants (Ona, Yaweh, and Haush). Bridges' handwritten Yahgan dictionary is on display in The British Museum.

Gauchos relax after the round-up.

Gauchos in Paradise

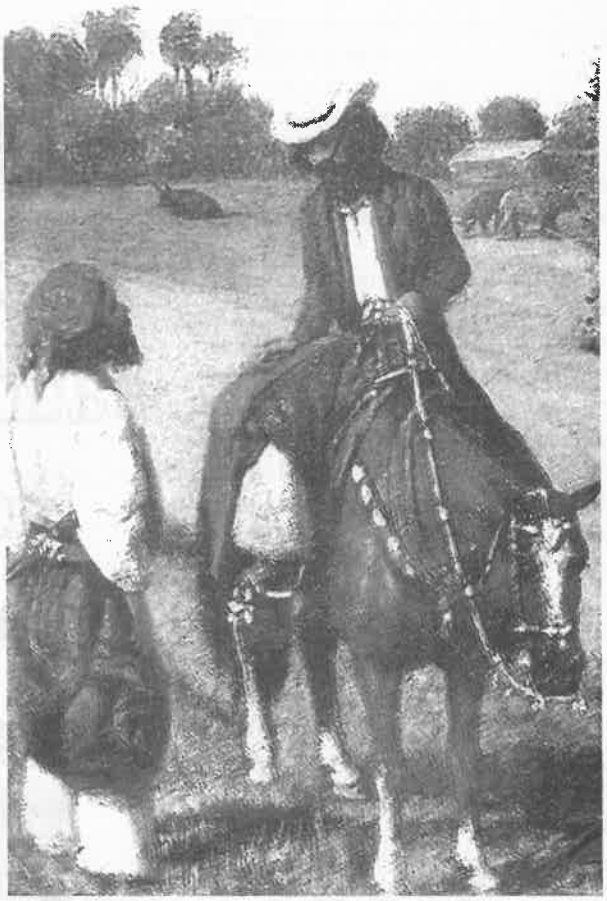
Jeffery Buchanan Miller

It was New Year's Day, six months since I packed my rucksack back in Wyoming and headed south.

I hiked the last fifty kilometers of gravel along *Ruta 0* at the jagged tail of the Andes.

My destination was Estancia Harberton, the southernmost ranch in the world, only 700 miles from Antarctica at the tip of Tierra del Fuego. That summer, nine thousand sheep and close to five hundred head of cattle roamed Estancia Harberton—a 50,000 acre ranch of mountains, rivers, lakes, swamps, and twenty-eight islands. The shimmering emerald waters of the Beagle Channel glistened as I crossed the isthmus leading to the ranch.

Natalie Goodall, the patron's wife, is a biologist who harkens from Iowa. She welcomed me and gave me a tour of the homestead. We took a gander at the generator shed, carpentry shop, bunkhouses, large shearing shed, and "bone" house where she stores whale skeletons for her research. Many buildings have white corrugated siding and are topped with red tin roofs. Prefabricated, they had been shipped from England more than a hundred years ago. The "*Casa Grande*" is the patron's house, an impressive two-story building housing Natalie's fossils, specimens of flora and fauna, and native artifacts that had been discovered on the ranch during the last century. Natalie pointed out rare flowers like *Phaiophleps lyckholmi* and star-shaped



Gaucho in traditional Argentine dress.

Jeffery Buchanan Miller was raised in Wyoming and holds degrees in both Creative Writing and Journalism from the University of Montana. He has worked as an editor for the Nature Conservancy of Montana and The Boone and Crockett Club. His work has also appeared in The Montana Kaimin *and the* Jackson Hole News.

Perezia pilifera that color the surrounding pastures.

Thomas, the patron, was coolly detached when I introduced myself on the dock. He barely uttered a word as he let out the lines that tethered an old troop carrier— the same type of craft that John Wayne used when he hit the beach in old war films. Now it hauls sheep across the channel. With barely a glance in my direction, the patron led the way to the workers' quarters.

Inside the kitchen, mutton simmered on the stove and home-made bread cooled in the window. The patron brusquely introduced me to the cook and some ranch hands, handed over a bedroll and saddle, and pointed to my bunk. That done, he lit a cigarette from the stove and stalked off.

I sat down on a bench beneath the hind quarters of a sheep that hung from the rafters. Juan, the cook, brought over a cup of scorching tea. Another hand shoved a tray in my direction—mutton chops caked in grease. Belly full, I kicked back and drifted off, listening to the sea through the thin walls of the bunkhouse.

There's no burning daylight at Harberton. Dawn brings the foreman clomping in out of the rain with the day's orders from the patron. Wringing out his beret, he hangs it above the stove among the other sodden garments and sits down to a breakfast of leftover mutton and coffee—a brew thick enough to paint the walls. Outside, his dogs bark in the yard. "*Silencio*!" he roars, rapping sharply on the window with his spoon. Peace restored, he barks out the orders for the day.

After breakfast I help Andrede wrangle a herd of ponies from the upper pasture into the corral on the shoreline. We each choose a fresh horse and I hold down Andrede's mare so he can

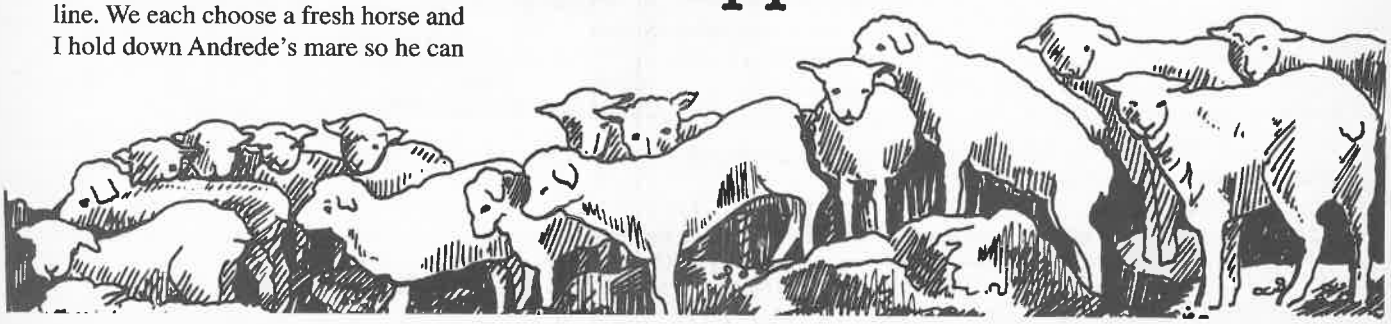
I hand the testicles to the cook who stuffs them in a burlap saddle bag to be stewed up for supper.

work on her hooves. Pounding the handle of his knife with a block of wood, he trims each hoof like an expert manicurist.

I felt a bit like a greenhorn when first given the odd two-piece Argentine saddle, sheepskin, and stirrups. As a young man in Wyoming I learned early on that anyone who can't saddle a horse isn't worth much. But it only took a little horse-sense and I was cinching the pieces of tack together in no time. I find it to be the most comfortable rig I've ever ridden on, although eighteen straight hours is a long stretch in any saddle.

In preparation for the summer roundup, I spend my first week on the *estancia* mending fences. Using axes we chop trees so they fall against each other like dominos. This creates a barrier in a quarter the time it would take to string a fence through the dense forest. Other workers cut logs to patch the corduroy bridges spanning the many bogs that dot the ranch. Only when a chilling Cape Horn storm blows in do we take shelter in the forest, silently sipping our *yerba mate* through silver straws.

Punching cattle through the wide open valleys at the tail end of the continent, the wind whipping our backs, feels much like cattle drives back in Wyo-



Laucha, a border collie can maneuver fifty frightened sheep up a gangplank onto the boat.

ming. I am reminded of Bruce Chatwin's words in *In Patagonia*: "There is something in nothing."

Each evening after the round-up we drive the cattle into the corral. At dawn we start cutting the calves from the herd using our rawhide lassos and *bolas*. Then we wrestle them to the ground for tagging and branding. Each gaucho carries a traditional Spanish dagger called a *facon*. Once branded, the foreman unsheathes his facon and, with a quick slash, castrates the young bulls. My job is to hold down the onery animals and stuff a handful of rocksalt into the incision. I hand the testicles to the cook who stuffs them in a burlap saddle bag to be stewed up for supper. In a couple of weeks the patron logs in the last of the

"On the shores of the island I kept passing mounds of purple mussel shells. These were the garbage heaps of the Yahgan Indian."

—Chatwin, *In Patagonia*

The mounds of Yahgan refuse, described by Chatwin, pimpled the shoreline as we rode up to the archaeological base camp. Inside one of the tents a small group of archaeologists meticulously excavated one of the mounds. The Yahgan Indians lived primarily on fish, shellfish and marine mammals. This site marks one of their many encampments whose fires Darwin, aboard *The Beagle*, first spotted on his voyage through this channel. The early Fuegian inhabitants went without clothing and relied on the warmth of constant fires to shield themselves from the extreme weather.

The Yahgans have completely disappeared in the last decade, along with other indigenous Fuegian groups such as the Ona (Selknam) and Haush. Justine Graham, one of the on-site archaeologists, showed me a few recent discoveries including a particularly impressive harpoon head. I told her of the great multitude of mounds we encountered during the cattle and sheep drives– all undisturbed, each a time capsule waiting to be excavated.

stock. Tomorrow we'll begin rounding up sheep.

A charred black lamb, spread-eagled on a spit, roasts over an open fire as we ride into camp. It's been a long day driving a flock of Corriedale. It appears that we're in for another meal of sheep for the umpteenth time. But this meal is a special treat—an Argentine *parrillada*, or barbecue—a real feast. Afterwards, we take a *siesta*, smoking and sharing a bottle of home brewed spirits near a river alive with sea trout rising from crystal pools. Even the foreman relaxes and tenderly feeds the leftover bones to his dogs.

Gauchos from the other side of the mountains have come with Adrian, the patron's brother, to help with the roundup. Many come from Chile. Around the campfire, the gauchos swap stories. These horsemen share the same independent spirit as the North American cowboy. Both endure long uncomplaining hours in the saddle, choose their words carefully, and love to dance. Most come from the island of Chiloe and already know each other. Their stories describe a lifestyle of drifting far from home.

Orcas surface off the stern of our troop carrier as we approach Gable Island in the Beagle Channel. Harberton Ranch once had a shearing shed here, but nowadays shearing takes place on the estate. The island is used only for range and our job is to herd the beasties onto the boat for transport back to the mainland. The dogs are invaluable during the round-up, barking and nipping to herd the sheep along. Of the dogs, Laucha, a border collie, is the best herder. She alone can maneuver up to fifty frightened sheep across a bridge or up a gangplank onto the boat. Even then, a few mavericks get away and swim the channel. It's a miracle that with their thick, absorbent fleece they don't get water-logged and drown.

The following morning Andrede and I leave the bunkhouse carrying a couple of plastic pails, a bundle of kindling, and our knives. We walk down to the dark beach shrouded in washed up kelp and fill the pails with sea water. Overhead an albatross circles inquisitively. Inside the large holding shed, the foreman is already skinning one of the sheep. Using an oil drum cut in half, I set up a makeshift kettle over the fire.

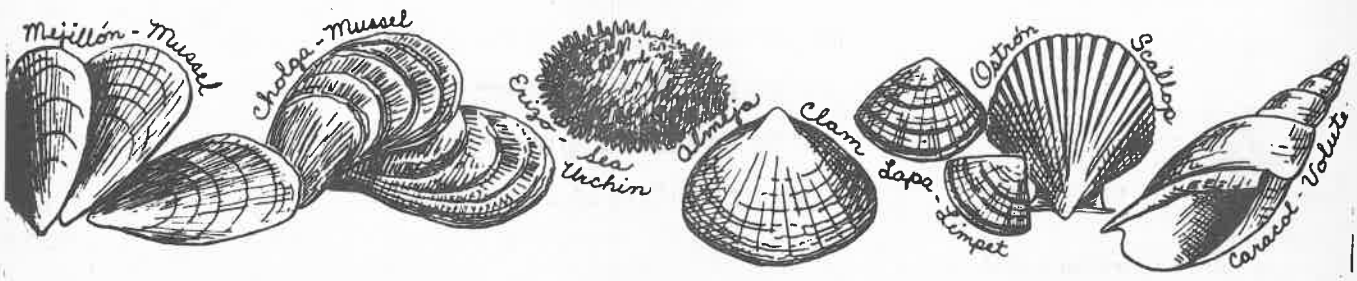
Andrede pulls the hide from a sheep and hangs it up on the gate to dry. Usually the hides are sold off, but sometimes one is set aside for a saddle pad. The ground is slippery with fresh muck. I grab hold of a slick rope for balance. Pulling hand over hand, I hoist the twirling carcass of a sheep until it is high enough to work on, then tie off the rope.

"*Como esta ahora*?" Andrede asks, cutting the heart out of the sheep and tossing it to me. I dump it in the kettle. Nothing is wasted. Even the pancreas. It's washed in sea water, dried and used in making bridle. Andrede takes a rag from the pail and wipes the carcass down with saltwater.

I walk outside where the wind is blasting off the channel. My chafed hands burn from the guts I carry. I drop them into the steel barrel and, in the rising steam, stir the stew with an old boat paddle. Nearby, the foreman rests on a log—his hands red with gore like those of a surgeon. At his side Laucha tears into a liver. It's suddenly very still, with only the sounds of the crackling fire and the wind through the shed. Ranching is not always pretty. But the weekly slaughter of a half-dozen sheep for food carries on the tradition of subsistence.

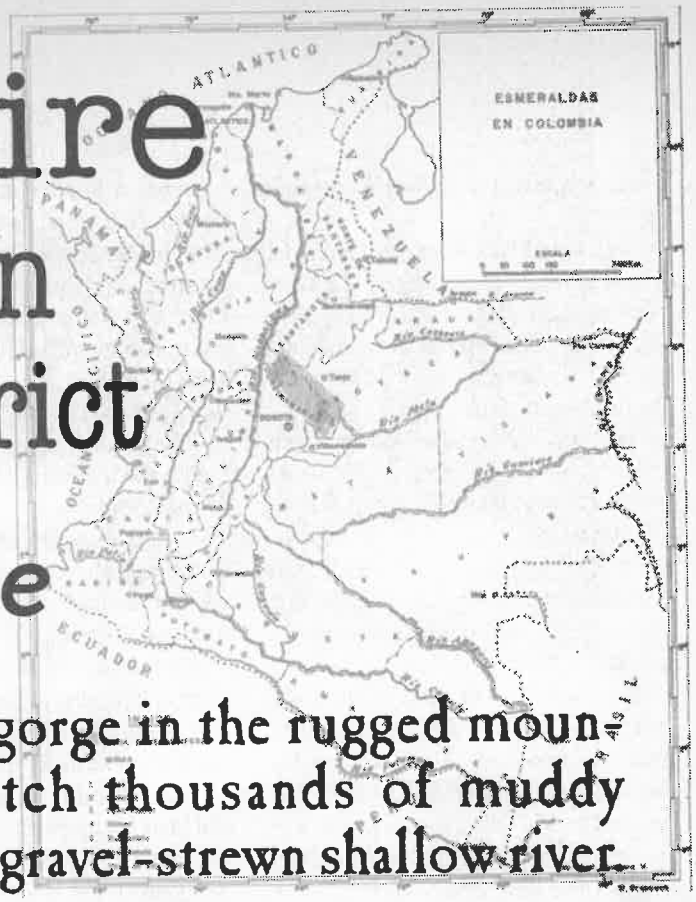
A team of shearers arrives towards the end of the season with all the fanfare of jocks storming in for the Big Game. They carry cases of beer tucked under their arms, although drinking is frowned upon at the *estancia*. Awkwardly tall and lively, they are experts in their craft, a skill they reveal when they get down to business. Sheep shearing is back-breaking work. In bouts lasting two-to three-hours they toil ceaselessly, clipping with astonishing speed. All this explains their staggering *Quilmes* beer consumption and need to sleep on hard, wooden kitchen benches. The shearers finish the job in a few days. The patron ships the fleeces, now rolled and compressed into 440 to 660 pound bales, to Buenos Aires.

The season over, I take some time off before setting out on my long walk northward back to Wyoming. Sipping whiskey, I watch ships pass through the Beagle Channel. My meager wages vanish as I think about my gaucho friends riding over the ridge line with their dogs, waving farewell as they disappear into the wind-slanted Fuegian trees.



Green Fire
The Colombian Emerald District

Robert Mykle



At the bottom of a steep gorge in the rugged mountains of Colombia, I watch thousands of muddy miners toiling ant-like in a gravel-strewn shallow river.

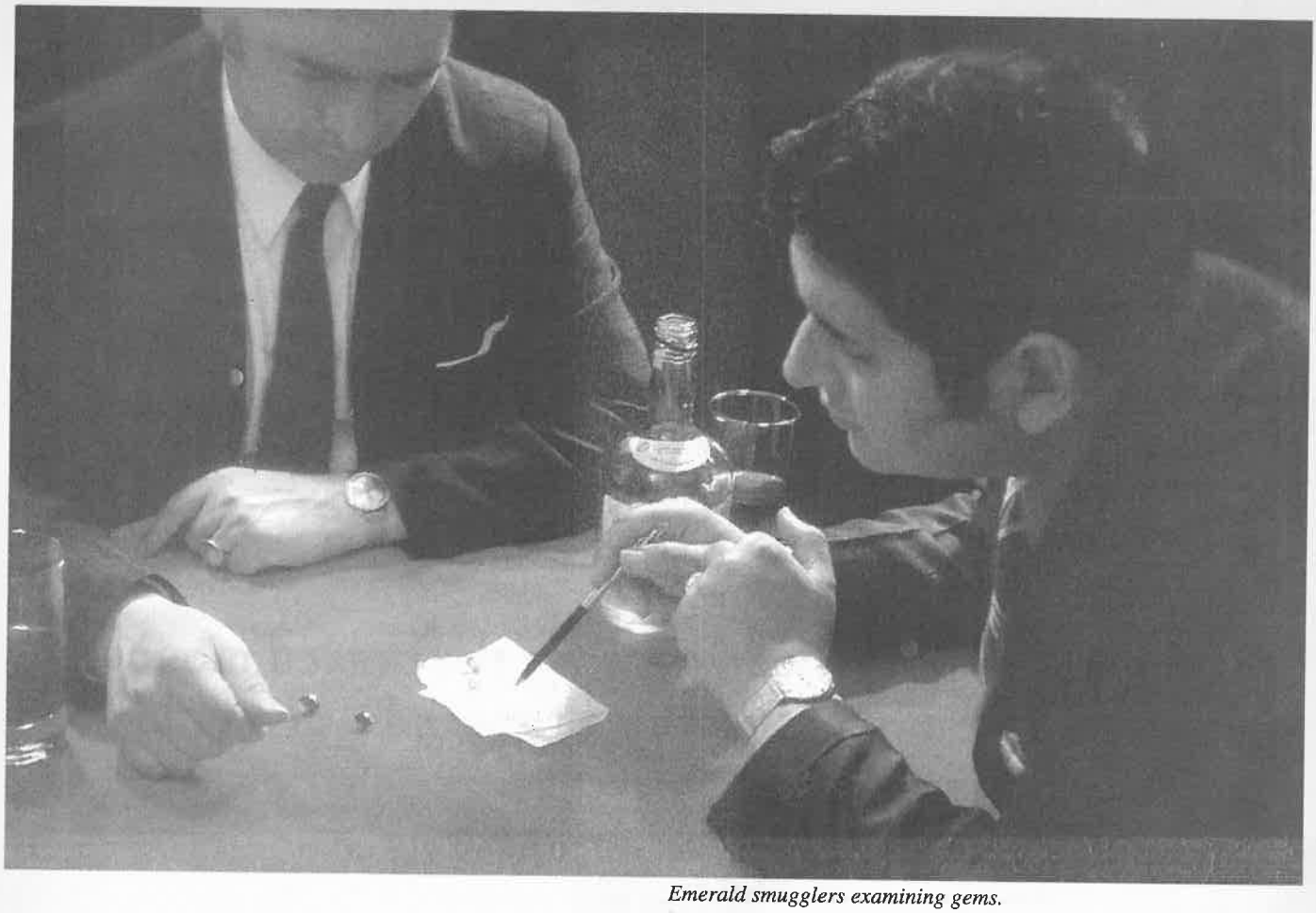
Violence during the Emerald War.

Above, outcrops of the lush green mountains loom ominously. On the slopes of one mountain, bulldozers push tons of earth over the nearly perpendicular drop. The tailings cascade down the slope into the mud clogged river below. Here the *guaqueros*, or dirt miners, scavenge the dregs for emeralds overlooked by the miners above.

Eking out a precarious living at best, groups of *guaqueros* stake out a spot where they dig, sift, and wash the muddy tailings. Once in a while, if lucky, they will find a greenish stone 1/4 carat or larger. Most of the stones are the greenish beryl-like emeralds, but too translucent or opaque to be of gem quality. But some are quality gemstones, and *guaqueros* dream of finding such a stone that will free them from poverty.

'Gringo', in Colombia, is a term that refers to all foreigners and is not meant derisively. Being the local *gringo*, I was constantly assailed by *guaqueros* who wanted me to buy their hoard. "This is the best emerald found this year," smiled a toothless *guaquero*. Unfolding a piece of paper with dirt-stained callused hands, he revealed a large three or four carat emerald. I smiled back, "I have no money." At this he shrugged his shoulders and moved on to another buyer.

Robert Mykle was a long time resident of Colombia. During his tenure he traveled extensively across Colombia, made many deep jungle trips, and climbed Colombia's highest peaks. His travels brought him in contact with many of participants in Colombia's civil war, including guerillas and paramilitary operatives. He is currently writing a book "Killer 'Cane, the Great Florida Hurricane of 1928".



Emerald smugglers examining gems.

This is the Emerald District—an area of toil and turmoil with a violent history. Even before the Spanish arrived in the New World emeralds turned up in the Aztec cities of Mexico, carried from the high Colombian Andes down to the coast and across the Gulf of Mexico. In hopes of persuading the Spaniards to leave Mexico, Montezuma, the Aztec king, filled a small golden cart with emeralds and offered it as a bribe. His efforts were futile. Most of the emeralds in Iran's famous Teheran Museum came from Chivor in the 16th century by way of Spain and Italy. The crown worn by the Shah of Iran on state occasions is on display in the Melbi Bank in Teheran. The row of large dark emeralds that encircle the crown are from Chivor. Indeed, most of the emeralds seen in the crown jewels throughout Europe are from Colombia.

However, these green beauties came at a great price in blood. The Spaniards caged Indians in the mines, forcing them to dig emeralds for food. Thousands died. Such mistreatment of Indians violated Spanish laws protecting them. When tales of genocide reached the ears of Pope Clement X, he pressured King Charles II to close the mine. Such was the moral strength of the Catholic Church in 1675 that the Pope could get his will. The mine was promptly closed down. Sealed and abandoned, its very location was forgotten for three hundred years. It lived on only in the memory of a few men, the sole clue to its whereabouts a

Most of the emeralds seen in the crown jewels throughout Europe are from Colombia.

Spanish inscription that read: "The mines of Chivor are situated on the point of a ridge from which the *Llanos* (the vast grassy plains of eastern Colombia) of the Orinoco can be seen."

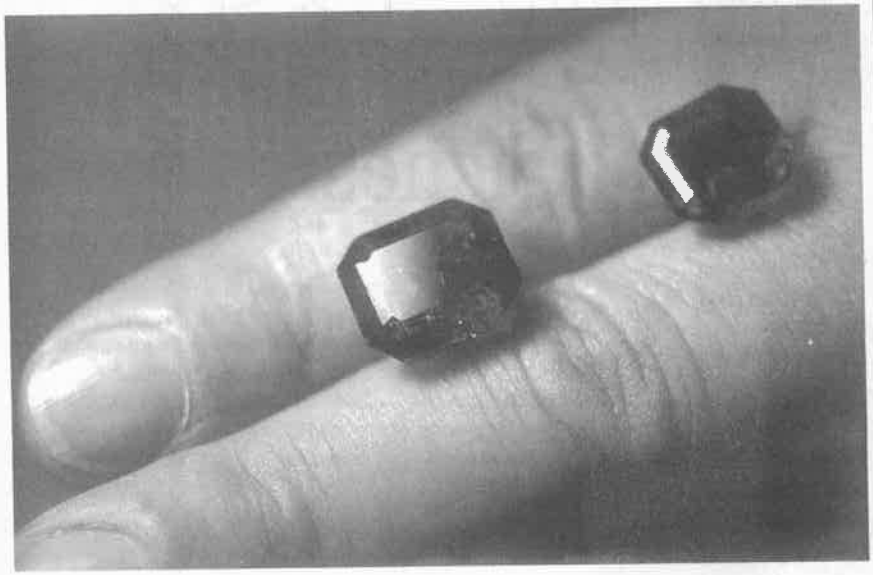
The location of the Chivor mine remained a mystery until Pacho Restrepo, a dreamer, came along. Pacho's dream was to find the Chivor mine. He had a simple plan. He would scale each mountain that had a view of the *Llanos* and search the area for the mine. He knew the mine must be in the Somondoco district of Boyaca, a 50 square mile area of steep mountain terrain. In 1896 he set out.

Criss-crossing the high ridges and valleys of the Eastern Cordillera, Pacho, along with his Indian crew, slashed, crawled and dug in their search for the Chivor mine. Persistence and a spot of luck finally paid off when they stumbled upon old water canals dug into the side of a mountain. Following these, Pacho came to a ridge where there was a large "V" in the mountains. In the distance he could see the *Llanos*, like an evergreen ocean. The area was completely overgrown but they got down to work, hacking away the vegetation, searching for the mine. They might have found nothing were it not for a dog who chased a *buruga* (a large animal similar to a groundhog) into its burrow. While one of the Indians was digging out the *buruga* for dinner, he unexpectedly broke into a tunnel. Its regular walls and arched roof left no doubt—this was the lost mine of Chivor.

Alas, like many visionaries before, Pacho Restrepo could not parlay his discovery into riches. Failing to make the mine pay off, he eventually sold it to British interests, the Chivor Emerald Company.

Colombia and emeralds go together. This country produces 90% of the world's gem-quality emeralds. Most of the green stones come from a single province, the Department of Boyaca, just north of the Colombian capital, Santafé de Bogotá. Other emerald mines are also found in Boyaca—the Muzo and Cosquez mines—among the more famous. Each mine yields its own distinct gems. Chivor emeralds are bluish green, in contrast to the deep green Muzo emeralds with their wild color, "*une couleur sauvage*". Thus, each emerald proclaims its heritage, identifying the mine from whence it came.

In 1918 Fritz Kelvin unearthed the famous 'Patricia' emerald, a 632-carat emerald now on display at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. It's valued at 3.5 million dollars. Other fine emeralds are on exhibit at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C. and the fabulous Bogotá Gold Museum.



Two cut green beauties.

"At length they reached a thick-settled hamlet.... The Spaniards rushed on the place, and the inhabitants, without offering resistance, fled in terror to the neighboring forests, leaving all their effects.... Rushing into the deserted dwellings, the invaders found there, besides stuffs of various kinds, and food most welcome in their famished condition, a large quantity of gold and silver wrought into clumsy ornaments, together with many precious stones; for this was the region of the *esmeraldas*, or emeralds, where that valuable gem was most abundant. One of these jewels that fell into the hands of Pizarro...was as large as a pigeon's egg. Unluckily, his rude followers did not know the value of their prize; and they broke them into many pieces by pounding them with hammers. They were led into this extraordinary proceeding, it is said, by one of the Dominican missionaries, Fray Reginaldo de Pedraza, who assured them that this was the way to prove the true emerald, which could not be broken. It was observed that the good father did not subject his own emeralds to this wise experiment; but as the stones, in consequence of it, fell in value, being regarded merely as colored glass, he carried a considerable store of them to Panama."

From Pedro Pizarro, Descub y Conq., MS

Armed guerillas in the Colombian mountains.

Rugged and isolated, the Emerald District has gone through a number of changes. Once gangs of *esmeralderos*, emerald dealers and outlaw miners, ruled the area. Gang leaders, such as the formidable *El Ganso* (The Goose), took their cut of all stones found. The Colombian National Police eventually swooped down and arrested El Ganso. Members of his gang plotted to secure his release by audaciously kidnapping a Catholic Cardinal who they hoped to exchange for the Goose. Under this vigilante rule, the unfortunate miner who found a large emerald was invit-

Eager miners flood into the area, risking health, enduring appalling conditions, and living in poverty in hopes of finding that one green stone that will be their ticket to riches.

Victoria Paez admires this 1,795 carat emerald—the biggest one at the Gold Museum in Bogotá. It used to be dwarfed by a bigger emerald until the museum curator, wearing white tie and tails for a presentation to the Banco de la Republica board, placed the giant emerald on the edge of a table. His coattails swept the massive gem to the floor, where it instantly shattered into a lot of smaller emeralds.

Photographs on pages 22, 23, and 25 and at the left courtesy of Loren McIntyre.

ing kidnapping, torture and death.

"In the old days it was safe for anyone to come to the mines," a local *esmeraldero* Hernando Ansola, told me, "The problem was leaving. Everyone knew you came to buy emeralds and were leaving with a juicy cache of gems. You had to leave in a armed caravan or risk being bushwhacked."

Later, the Emerald District became a pawn in the battle between the drug traffickers and guerillas, with both trying to control its riches. For a while, El Mejicano, the most violent of the drug cartel bosses, controlled the area. His reign ended abruptly when the Colombian National Police discovered his hideout on the north coast. He and his son died in a barrage of machine gun fire.

The real emerald wars began at the Cosquez mine. Claim-jumping and land disputes erupted in violence that spread to the other mines. In the end the clash claimed some 2,500 lives.

Not long ago I visited Roberto Avila, a friend who owned a dredge on a river below the Cosquez mine. I slept at a ranch house—the site where many guaqueros had been massacred at the start of the emerald war. One night we woke to the sound of people moving in the grass outside. We went to check. The grass had been trampled down but there was no one in sight. Still, I had goose bumps all over. The next day someone said we may have been visited by the ghosts of the dead guaqueros.

After years of lawlessness, Victor Carranza, the godfather of the emerald area, finally wiped out the competition. Relative calm prevails. Today the Emerald District is dangerous to anyone walking around with a pocketful of uncut gems. But it is dangerous to carry such booty anywhere. Still, the wanton violence of the past is history. Eager miners flood into the area, risking health, enduring appalling conditions, and living in poverty in hopes of finding that one green stone that will be their ticket to riches.

A new company, the Chivor Emerald Corporation Ltd. has bought the mine and is expanding production. There is no artificial pricing of emeralds. Unlike diamonds, emeralds are sold as soon as they are mined. There is no hoarding of emerald stocks to inflate the price.

The emerald commands the highest price of all gemstones. A fine quality 2-3 carat emerald is worth more than a ruby or diamond of equal weight. In recent years Japanese jewelers have bought most of Colombia's emeralds.

Today it is relatively safe to visit the emerald district. It's best to contact MINERCOL in Bogotá, the state agency in charge of emerald production at Chivor and the other emerald mines. Note: If you are not an expert you run great risk purchasing raw uncut emeralds. Many a happy tourist has returned home with an "emerald-find-of-the-century" only to discover he had purchased a fragment of a 7-Up bottle.

A pawn in the battle between drug traffickers and guerillas

This monstrance is safeguarded in a vault at the Iglesia San Ignacio in Bogotá and brought out only once a year under heavy guard for mass. It contains over 1.000 emeralds, making it deserving of its nickname "lechuga."

COMPUTERS

Of course we need computers. (SAE needs to move into the 21st century with the rest of the world) But not any computers. Truth to tell we've gotten donations of some computers so ancient they had to be carted off to the Salvation Army the day they arrived. No, we need a new computer. Unlikely? Okay how about a newish PC ....ie. two, at most, three years old. How can you tell? Look at it this way. If it doesn't say "Pentium" or "Intel Inside" somewhere on the beast, it's too old.

That said, what about it? Wouldn't you like a faster machine. Sure you would! Go buy it. Treat yourself to something nice. You're worth it. Then ship the slightly less nice computer to us because we're worth it too.

You won't? Well you work for somebody don't you. Talk to your boss. Tell her you're tired of wasting company time on some dinosaur. You need a faster machine. Threaten to quit if she doesn't come through. Remember....a donation is tax deductible! Perhaps several computer stations are getting updated. We can use at least 7 newish computers for the Ithaca office and the SA clubhouses. Laptop's too. Of course, we'll take 6, even 5, maybe even 4. We're easy.

TRIP REPORTS

Think what it would do for the Club's image if trip reports were online, easily accessible by members at any old cybercafe anywhere in the world.

So what's stopping us? Handwritten trip reports. You can't search a handwritten trip report unless it is manually keyworded. Typewritten trip reports, on the other hand, don't need a special program to be searchable. Scan them in, or better yet, submit them electronically, and they are instantly available to your fellow members around the world, providing them with invaluable advice and insight. So, to kick off 2001, Ithaca will no longer accept handwritten trip reports. The clubhouses? That's another matter. But if you want to see your trip report up there in cyberspace, a beacon of guidance, it will have to be typed.

AmeriCan Adventures
ROAD RUNNER

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA
MEXICO & USA

Small Group Adventures for the Independent Traveler

Bolivian Explorer
10 Days from Lima to La Paz

Inca Trail
15 Days from Lima including the Amazon & Machu Picchu

Amazon & Inca Adventure
22 Days from Lima to La Paz, exploring Peru & Bolivia

Costa Rican Discovery
14 Days from San Jose

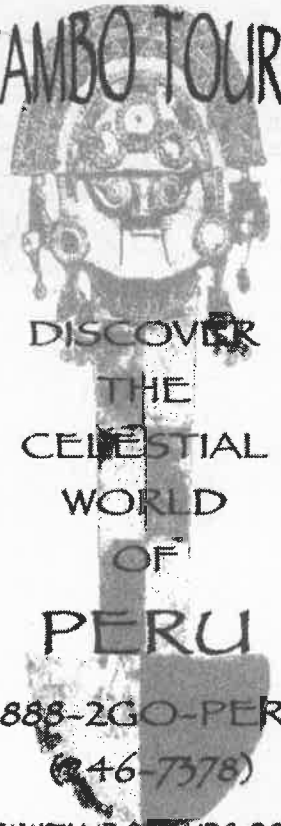
All accommodation included
No single supplement

Call for a free color brochure
1-800-TREK-USA
1-800-873-5872
or visit our website at
www.americanadventures.com

TAMBO TOURS

CUZCO - MACHU PICCHU - AMAZON - MANU

NAZCA - SIPAN - CHAN CHAN - LAKE TITICACA



DISCOVER THE CELESTIAL WORLD OF PERU

1-888-2GO-PERU
(246-7378)

WWW.TAMBOTOURS.COM

Venezuela
off the beaten track

natours
adventure tours

- Expedition to Angel Falls
- Amazonas
- Lost world of tepuis
- Upper Orinoco rainforest
- Caribbean Beaches
- Los Llanos wildlife tour
- Andes treks

Tailor made trips

Calle 24 #8-237 (beside Teleférico)
Telefax +58-74-524075 & 524216. Merida, Venezuela
E-mail: natoura@telcel.net.ve

www.natoura.com

SAFARI
Ecuador

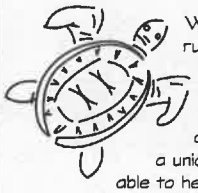
Andes Expeditions

- Llama Trekking
- 4x4 Transport
- Day Tours
- Hiking
- Climbing
- Horse Riding

Amazon Jungle

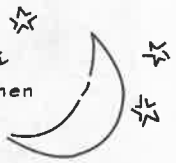
- Along the river Shiripuno we offer the very best in jungle adventures.
- Camping at night and hiking or travelling in dugout canoes.
- We always have bilingual guiding.
- We have expeditions departing every week.

The Galapagos Boat Company



With experience running boats in the Islands and extensive data files on the boats in operation we are in a unique position to be able to help you select the best available option for your cruise in the Islands.

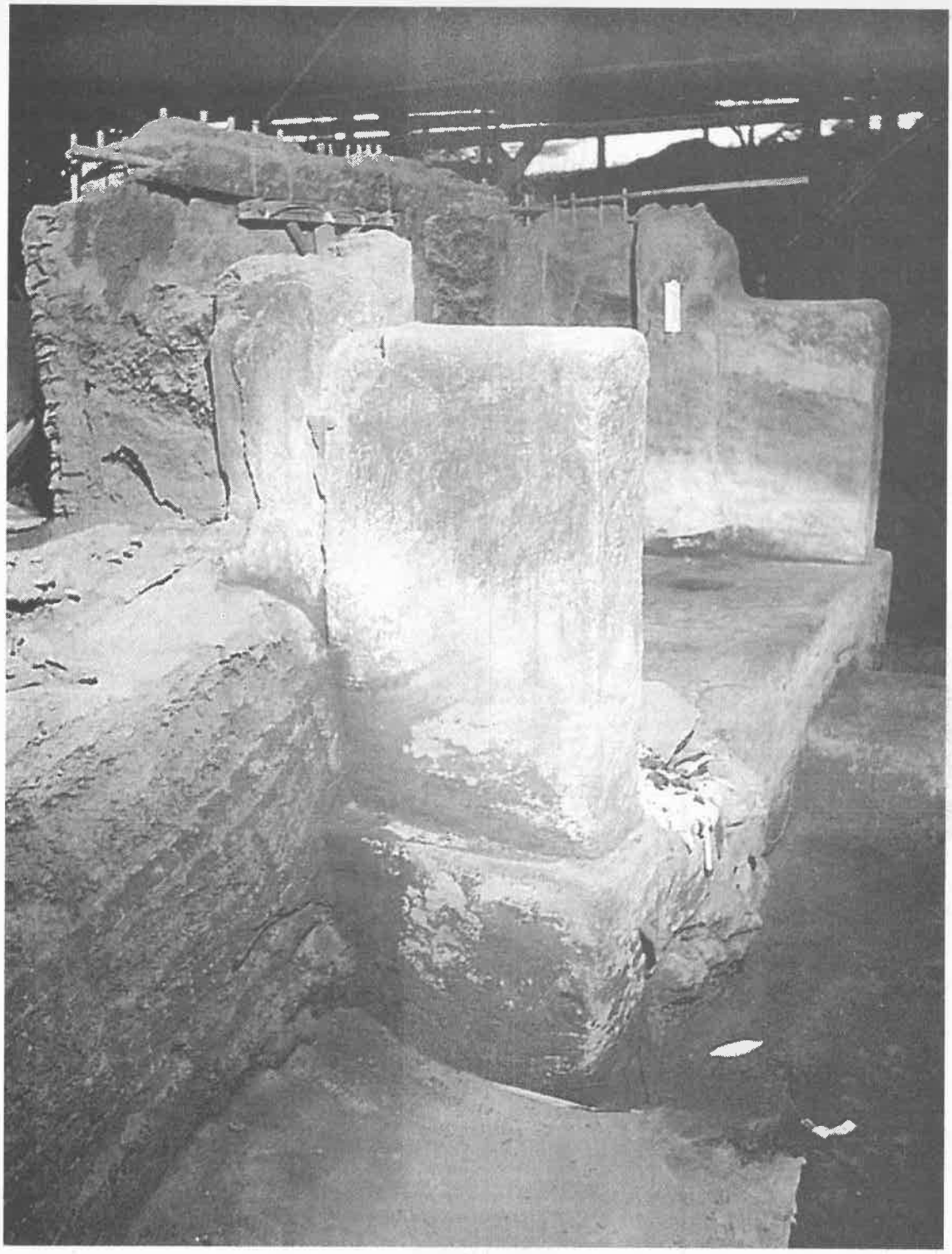
Hostal Eva Luna
Only for Women



- In the heart of new Quito
- Economic rates
- Discounts for long term guests
- Comfortable beds
- Kitchen Privileges
- Quiet and secure location
- Secure luggage lockers

SAFARI

Calama 380 and Juan Leon Mera,
Quito - Ecuador.
USA & Canada: 1 800 434 8182
Tel. 593 2 552 505 / 234 799
Fax: 593 2 223 381
E-mail: admin@safari.com.ec
http://www.safari.com.ec



Visitors to this site will not find a single Mayan temple.

Joya De Cerén

The Hidden Jewel of the Ruta Maya

Francesca Wade

'La Ruta Maya' that winds through the ancient world of the Mayans draws thousands to Mexico and Guatemala every year.

Excavated ruins of Joya de Cerrén.

Travelers of this route sometimes venture to lesser-known sites, but even they mostly overlook a small archeological treasure in El Salvador, just over the border from Guatemala—Joya de Cerén.

All Mayan sites have one thing in common. They are the ruins of a once powerful culture, with spectacular temples of complex construction. Such monuments were the work of a ruling class—rich and powerful kings, priests and noblemen. Dedicated to the gods, these shrines, temples, plazas, meeting places, and holy dwellings were portals between this world and the next.

But what of the millions of people who built these monuments, the common men and women who toiled in the fields, quarried the rock, hauled the building materials to make these impressive structures? As is so often the case in history, little evidence survives to document their way of life. They remain unknown, faceless, remembered by just a few artifacts and a lot of theories. But are they?

This is what sets Joya de Cerén apart. Visitors to this site will not find a single Mayan temple. When the Maya Empire was at its height, Joya de Cerén was a small farming community. Named for the Spanish family that formerly owned the land, Joya de Cerén lies 36 km west of San Salvador (less than an hour's bus ride away). It is also about one and a half hours from the Guatemalan border and less than five hours from Guatemala City.

In 1976 a tractor, clearing the area for the Instituto Regulador de Abastecimentos (IRA), hit something hard. It turned out to be a column from a house. An archeological survey followed, revealing a large number of structures hidden beneath the surface. A dozen or so buildings have since been excavated.

Here in Joya de Cerén is abundant physical evidence of everyday life in a rural Mayan village—a moment frozen in time. Only not frozen, but baked. At around 6pm, fourteen hundred years ago, the volcano Loma Caldera, 600 meters north of Joya de Cerén, erupted in a huge explosion. Burning hot lava

For the past two years Francesca Wade has been working, living and traveling through Central and South America. Currently she is working as a writer/sub-editor in her home town of London. This is to keep her bank manager happy, and replenish her funds so that she can return to South America in January.

They left behind half eaten meals, footprints in the ash indicating flight, a bowl with a greasy finger-print, a husk of corn

hit cold river water and threw up a mixture of volcanic ash and hot vapor 100 degrees Celsius. In a second phase, the volcano spewed huge red-hot stones and belched an even thicker cloud of ash that rained down over the area. Over the years, other eruptions further buried Joya de Cerén in additional layers of ash. Today, these many layers of volcanic material can be seen as colored stripes on the walls of some of the houses. The whole process literally baked Joya de Cerén like a clay pot in a kiln, and thus preserved it.

Each house is designed for four people only—husband, wife, and two children.

Unlike Pompeii, no skeletons have been found at Joya de Cerén. The evidence shows that fleeing villagers had just enough time to gather their children, a few valuables and some livestock as they ran for their lives. They left behind half eaten meals, footprints in the ash indicating flight, a bowl with a greasy fingerprint, a husk of corn, some scattered beans and peppercorns, and much more.

From the archeological evidence uncovered so far, it appears that the villagers of Joya de Cerén lived communally, sharing square bodegas and round kitchens. In addition, a community house served as a place where visitors could trade their goods. The small, private homes typically consisted of one main room with a smaller store room in the rear. All houses are oriented in a north-easterly direction, presumably to take advantage of cool cross winds. With thick adobe walls and straw roofs, they were constructed on raised platforms out of the reach of animals and floods that came with the rainy season. Each house is designed for four people only—husband, wife, and two children. They had their own natural methods for family planning and, if these failed, they did not hesitate to resort to infanticide, a practice the Spanish abhorred and put a stop to.

The village Shaman was the most respected figure in the community. It was to the Shaman that villagers turned for treatment of physical and psychological woes—ailments he treated with medicinal herbs and alcohol. His prominence is reflected in his house, the only structure with decorations adorning the outer walls. It is believed that ornamentation served to draw attention to the house and the importance of its inhabitant. There is also a mysterious false entry to the Shaman's house—a way to fool unwanted visitors perhaps?

Visitors to Joya de Cerén should stop by the small museum that gives the history of the site, describing its discovery and excavation. There are displays of artifacts and detailed architectural drawings of each structure. From there, a path leads to several houses, including the Shaman's house. More houses and a sauna are currently under excavation.

Not inaccessible by any means, the biggest obstacle to reaching Joya de Cerén is ignorance—tourists simply do not know about it. All the more reason why this diamond in the rough of the Mayan world should be celebrated and added to everyone's Ruta Maya.

Loren McIntyre

Every day my junk mail includes cruise brochures. Old KGB spooks might admire the art of misinformation that typifies—perhaps innocently—descriptions of Amazon ports of call intended to attract bookings. Here are a couple from an ad for The Great Amazon Theatre Cruise of 2001:

SANTAREM, BRAZIL. "One of the most gorgeous places on earth."

MANAUS, BRAZIL. "...boasts the famed Teatro Amazonas, where Caruso once performed in the days of the "rubber barons."

In Brazil, Caruso never ventured beyond São Paulo and Rio. Bunkum writers put him in Manaus because it looks good in lots of other cruise brochures. Even the Encyclopaedia Britannica got sucked in. Its entry on Manaus declares that Caruso sang at the Teatro on opening night. And so he does in Werner Hertzog's film Fitzcaraldo. It opens with Klaus Kinski emerging from the Teatro Amazonas inspired by Caruso to build a similar opera house in Iquitos, Peru. Slightly askew geographically. Caruso made the Buenos Aires opera season annually until World War I interrupted his transatlantic voyaging. They say* that in 1917 he wore his life jacket all the way back to Italy.

Jenny Lind is another world-class artist who haunts Manaus's opera house in both cruise literature and books by noted authors. The "Swedish Nightingale" toured Europe from 1838 to 1883. In 1851 she traveled under P. T. Barnum's auspices in the USA but never in South America. Johanna Maria Lind died 9 years before the Teatro Amazonas opened in 1896. Even so, a French ballet mistress teaching at the Teatro told me that sometimes late at night after her pupils go home she hears—behind the tapestry, behind the Teatro's splendid curtain—the voice of Jenny Lind.

A recent cruise catalog invited MS/Bremen passengers to visit the port city of 100,000 smack on the Equator where river pilots embark.

MACAPA, BRAZIL. "The main attraction here is the Pororoca, an extraordinary natural wonder created as the incoming ocean tide crashes violently into the outflowing waters of the Amazon. This forceful meeting creates churning waters, waves that soar to 15 feet, and the deafening roar of ocean tides. The Pororoca, a natural phenomenon which occurs daily and lasts for about an hour, is one of South America's most memorable sights."

In 1969 I based in Macapa for 5 days of searching the mouths of the Amazon by float plane, putting down on the water again and again to approach fisherman who might tell where in hell I'd find the Pororoca, the Amazon tidal bore long touted in textbooks and encyclopedias. I finally located the Pororoca at the Furo do Guajuru which bisects Caviana Island far, far from shipping lanes and people. It occurs when tides are highest, the full moon is setting, and where the water is less than four fathoms deep. I photographed it from the air for the first time ever for my article AMAZON, the River Sea. The Geographic might have accused me of wasting their money had they known that one could watch the Pororoca any old day from the deck of a cruise ship.

*"They say" is the pervasive watchword for bunkum to follow.

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Hotels, Lodging

Casa Sol 36
Casa de la Serenidad 40
Explorama Lodges 48
Explorer's Inn 38
La Castellana 38
Niños Hotel 40
Orange Guest House 37
Posada Del Inca Hotels 64
Yachana Lodge 37
Yarina Lodge 35

Language Instruction

"Amazonas" Spanish School 36
Amauta Language School 40
Cristóbel Colón 32
Escuela de Español "Simon Bolivar" 34
Excel Language Center 38
"La Lengua" Spanish School 34
Mundi Lingua 33

Publications, Maps, Videos

Abroad View 5
Bradt Publications 48
Footprints Handbooks 49
Rapa Nui Journal 47
Transitions Abroad 52

Tour Operators in the U.S. and U.K.

Exito 47
Tambo Tours 27

Tour Operators in South America

America Tours 48
Angermeyer's Enchanted Expeditions 49
Ecuadorian Alpine Institute 33
Emerald Forest 34
Explorama 48
Green World Adventure 37
Inca Explorers 48
Manu Ecological Adventures 40
Moggely Climbing 36
Native Life 35
Natoura 27
Pantiacolla Tours 39
Perol Chico 39
Q'ente 40
Rainforest Expeditions 38
Rolf Wittmer 36
Safari Ecuador 27
Tierra Verde 37
Tropic Ecological Adventures 53
Yurturi 33

Other Services

AmeriCan Adventures and Roadrunner 27
Amerispan Discount Card 47
Blankets Int'l 40
Ecotourism Conference 34
Ultraviolet Research 38

Members!

If you move, let your Club know at least a month in advance. Send a postcard, give us a call, or drop us a message through email at:explorer@samexplo.org

Cristóbal Colón

Spanish School

Quito-Ecuador-Sudamérica

Av. Colón 2088 y Versalles
Tel:506 508 Fax:222 964
www.southtravel.com
e-mail: colon@southtravel.com

- Free Salsa and Cooking lesson
- One outdoor activity per week
- Free Internet access
- No inscription fees

Prices per hour:

1 - 29 = $ 4,00
30 - 79 = $ 3,75
80 - 99 = $ 3,50
100 - 140 = $ 3,25

ECUADOR INFORMATION

Mundilingua

Looking for dynamic, flexible and efficient classes ?

We offer
- spanish for foreigners one-to-one or small groups
- social activities including dance lessons and excursions
- accomodation in native families
- Bar and Cafeteria

Adicional Services
- Internet
- Net2Phone
- Net2Fax

So ????
come, see,
and stay with us

FREE OF CHARGE
- e-mail
- fax-reception

special rates for SAEC-members

e-mail: info@mundilingua.com / http: //www.mundilingua.com

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO CLIMB TODAY?

Ecuadorian Alpine Institute
Your local climbing professionals

10% SAE DISCOUNT

www.ecuadorexplorer.com/eai

Yuturi
JUNGLE ADVENTURE

Biological reserve located after a five hour boat trip from Coca in the Napo river. Yuturi is surrounded by an impressive primary terra firme forest, with over 400 species of birds.
Yuturi is considered as one of the major birdwatching sites of the ecuadorian jungle.

INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS:
Av. Amazonas N24-236 y Colón. Telefax: 503 226 - 504 037 - 545 179
E-mails: yuturilodge@yahoo.com - yuturi1@yuturi.com.ec
URL Web: http://www.yuturilodge.com - www.YUTURI.com
Quito - Ecuador - South America

ECUADOR INFORMATION

LA LENGUA
One-to-One
Spanish School

STUDY WITH US FOR ONE HOUR, ONE WEEK OR ONE YEAR

- Intensive, individual classes
- **For beginners to advanced**
- Flexible schedules
- University trained teachers
- Official Diplomas
- Can arrange voluntary work
- Live with local families (three meals and laundry).
- **Help with student visas**
- Practice outside of the classroom, in a market, museum or small village.
- **School in Puerto López (the coast)**
- Free E-mail service

SAEC members receive 10% discount

Colón 1001 & Juan Leon Mera 8th floor
P.O. Box 17-07-9519 Quito - Ecuador
Phone/Fax ++593 2 501271
E-mail: lalengua@hoy.net
Internet: www.la-lengua.com

ACADEMIA SUPERIOR DE ESPAÑOL SIMÓN BOLIVAR

Offer individual Spanish lessons with very experienced teachers.
Trips every weekend, free internet, free salsa lessons, free cooking lessons and culture/history lessons.

Our school is highly recomended by members of the South American Explorers.

Visit us at
Leonidas Plaza 353 y Roca
phone/fax: (593-2-504977)
Quito - Ecuador

www.simon-bolivar.com

EMERALD FOREST expeditions

FOR THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

Journey into the Ecuatorial rainforest of eastern Ecuador, and explore the diversity of this enchanted world a biological treasure chest, homé to an incredible array of plants, animals, insects, and birds, many of them not yet classifiet

FOR SAEC MEMBERS - 15%

Amazonas Av. N2429 and J. Pinto
Telf. (593) 02 541 278
Telefax (593) 02 541 543
www. emeraldexpeditions.com
E-mail: emerald@ecuanex.net.ec

Quito - Ecuador

South American Ecotourism Conference

Info at
http://www.planeta.com
Cosponsored by South American Explorers &Planeta.com

ECUADOR INFORMATION

RECOMMENDED IN ECUADOR

LONG TERM FAVOURITE IN THE RICHEST ECOSYSTEM ON EARTH

" Dear Native Life
Thank you for the true wilderness experience. We will certainly refer any inquiries for an adventure in the best of Ecuador to you. Your guides are top quality. We hope to return to Ecuador soon and experience more of your tours."

ADVENTURE TRAVEL SOCIETY, WORLD CONGRESS 1998
ENGLEWOOD, CO.USA.

"Another jungle outfitter with good reputation and several reader recommendations is Native Life. They specialize in the Cuyabeno, among other areas. Native Life strives to be environmentally and culturally responsible. I appreciate reader's comments on this subject."

LONELY PLANET BOOK,1997

"The current favourite in trips to Cuyabeno is Native Life Travels. Guide owned and operated, they run 5- to 8 -day trips into the park. The popular 5-day trip costs US$245 per person, with a discount for SAEC members."

LET'S GO ECUADOR BOOK,1998

FOR THOUSANDS OF TRIP REPORTS, PLEASE CHECK IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN EXPLORERS CLUB OR IN NATIVE LIFE'S MAIN OFFICE

www.native-life.com
In Ecuador: Foch E4-167 and Amazonas Ave., Quito. E-mail:natlife1@natlife.com.ec

yarina LODGE

INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS:
Av. Amazonas N24-236 y Colón.
Telefax: 503 225 - 504 037 - 545 179
E-mails: yuturilodge@yahoo.com
yuturi1@ yuturi.com.ec
URL Web: http: //www.yuturilodge.com
www.YUTURI.com
Quito - Ecuador - South America

Ecological reserve on the south bank of the Napo river. Is located one hour boat trip from Coca. Yarina is an exellent birding area with much varzea and terra firme forest plus and area of secondary forest, characterized by such a variety and abundance of plants and wildlife.

ECUADOR INFORMATION

SPANISH SCHOOL AMAZONAS

Thinking about learning Spanish?
Come to Ecuador
and get the highest academic standards
and professional teaching staff

* One to one and small group classes
* Flexible schedules and reasonable rates
* Study in our "Jungle Branch" and enjoy the Amazon
* Special discounts for SAEC members
* Licensed by the Ecuadorian Ministry of Education
* Experienced Ecuadorian host families

"AMAZONAS" SPANISH SCHOOL
718 Jorge Washington and Amazonas Ave., Building Rocafuerte, 2nd. & 3rd. floor
Phone & fax: (593- 2) 504654, Phone: 527509 P. O . Box 17- 21 -1245 Quito - Ecuador
www.ecua.net.ec/amazonas E-mail: amazonas@pi.pro.ec

Andean house of sun
CASA·SOL
Charming Bed & Breakfast

Our house is your house

- Laundry service
- Fireplace
- Cable TV
- Secure luggage storage
- 24 hour hot water
- Garden patio
- Telephone, fax
- e-mail service
- Library with books and games
- Mountain bike rental

Calama 127 between 6 de Diciembre and Diego de Almagro
Quito • Ecuador • South America
Telf:(593-2)230798 • Fax:(593-2)223383
E-mail: casasol@ecuadorexplorer.com
http://www.ecuadorexplorer.com/casasol/home

ROLF WITTMER
TURISMO GALAPAGOS Cía. Ltda.
TRAVEL AGENCY AND TOUR OPERATOR
YATCH TIP TOP II - YATCH TIP TOP III

"Discover the incredible world that is Ecuador & Galapagos Islands"

Sail in our Yachts Tip Top II & III. Explore the Amazon sleeping in a charming jungle lodge, trek through andean highlands with their snow capped volcanoes and visit country farmers, see hundreds of bird species with our professional guides, visit a working hacienda or an indigenous market.

Mariscal Foch E7-81 y Diego de Almagro
Phone: (593-2) 526-938 / 507-282 / 568-014 / Mobile: 09-856597. Fax: (593-2) 228-520 / 448-173
E-mail: rwittmer@tiptop.com.ec
Web page: www.rolfwittmertiptoptours.com
P.O. Box: 17 - 07 - 8989.
Quito - Ecuador

Moggely Climbing

Best Prices with certified guides in Ecuador

www.Moggely.com

Biking-Horse Riding-Rafting-Paragliding-Jungle-Galapagos
Joaquin Pinto E4-255 y Amazonas Quito Telf. (02) 554 984

ECUADOR INFORMATION

The Orange Guest House

CHARMING BED & BREAKFAST

- IN THE HEART OF MODERN QUITO
- 8 ROOMS WITH PRIVATE BATH
- SLEEPS UP TO 18 GUESTS
- COMFORTABLE BEDS

Angermeyer's Enchanted Expeditions

Foch 726 y Av. Amazonas
P.O. Box: 17-1200599
Fax: 593-2-569956
Ph: 593-2-569960 / 221305
E-mail:
angermeyer@accessinter.net
Web Site:
http://www.angermeyer.com
Quito - Ecuador

Discover the Magic of the Galapagos...

GREEN WORLD ADVENTURES
Travel Consultants and Tour Operators

We offer you the largest selection of quality boats, cruises and tours at the lowest prices.
You'll find travelling with us like visiting Ecuador with your best friends

Web: www.galapagosislands.com - E-mail: info@galapagosislands.com
Phone:593-2-526 266 Phone-fax: 593-2-527-590 Mobile Phone: 593-9-736352
Address:Robles and Amazonas Av. Edif. "Proinco Calisto", 3rd floor, office 303
Quito-Ecuador

YATE FRAGATA

We are owners of the first class
Fragata Yacht
Direct operators of
Galapagos and Ecuador
The best prices in all the country:
→ scuba diving → snorkeling
→ jungle → climbing
→ trekking → rafting
→ indian markets
* SAEC members receive special discount !!!!!!
Telfs: (593-2) 509610 / 557261 / 09733821
E-mail: yfragata@uio.satnet.net
Visit our website at :
http://www.yachtfragata.com

Tierra verde
TRAVEL AGENCY
Quito - Ecuador

YACHANA LODGE

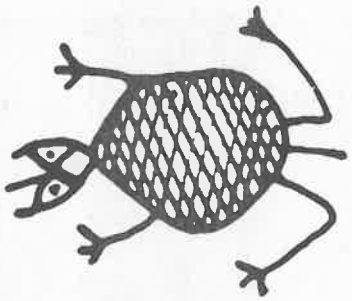
...a place for learning ECUADORIAN AMAZON

Yachana Lodge, overlooking the beautiful Napo river in the Ecuadorian Amazon, invites you to experience the unique culture and natural splendor of the rain forest. Promoting responsible Eco-tourism. 4 & 5 day trips

Phones: (5932) 237278 or 237133
E-mail: info@yachana.com
Web site: www.yachana.com

PERU INFORMATION

SOME SPECIES WATCH THE FOREST FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE
Tambopata Research Center
Posada Amazonas
Welcome to your ecological niche.
Rainforest expeditions
A UNIQUE SPECIES OF ECOTOUR
(303) 838-9412 WWW.PERUNATURE.COM



Excel LANGUAGE CENTER

INTENSIVE SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES

- All year round
- Groups at all levels
- Individual tuition
- Professional development
- Quality home stay or Hotel Accommodation
- Professional teachers
- Tours at discounted rates
- Business Centre

Cruz Verde 336, Cusco, Peru
Telefax: 051-84-232272
E-Mail: esl-exl@qenqo.rcp.net.pe
http://cusco.rcp.net.pe/excel

INCREASED ULTRAVIOLET IN SOUTH AMERICA?

If you have knowledge of or have experienced **severely sunburned skin** or **sore eyes**, please contact:

Jim Scanlon, 199 Canal Street #8, San Rafael, CA 94901
jscanlon@linex.com
leave msg 415-485-0540

EXPLORER'S INN

World Records
- in birds: 595 species
- butterflies: 1200+ species
- dragon flies: 149 species

Tambopata Wildlife Reserve
Puerto Maldonado
- *Lodge-30 rooms w/private bath*
- *Daily jet flights-30 minutes from Cusco*
- *Wildlife, Birdwatching, Photo Safaris*

***Bookings:* Peruvian Safaris S.A.**
LIMA: Alcanfores 459, Miraflores, Lima
Tel:4-47-8888 Fax: 2-418427
CUSCO: Plateros 365
Tel: 4-235342
E-MAIL:Safaris@amauta.rcp.net.pe
WEB: http://peruviansafaris.com

LA CASTELLANA
HOTEL
★ ★ ★

- ★ ***Located in Miraflores, the nicest modern and touristic area.***
- ★ ***Comfortable as a great hotel.***
- ★ ***Personal and qualified attention.***
- ★ ***We honor all major credit cards.***
- ★ ***Touristic information.***

Grimaldo del Solar 222
Miraflores, Lima-18 Peru
Telfs. 444-3690 444-4082
Fax: 446-9090
hcastellan@terra.com.pe

15% DISCOUNT FOR SAEC MEMBERS

PERU INFORMATION

What is a 50 Kg rat?

Why do palm trees walk?

How drunk can a sloth get?

If you want to know the answers,
and experience the wonders of the unspoilt
tropical rainforest of

MANU NATIONAL PARK

Contact us at **PANTIACOLLA** we specialize
in expeditions to Manu, providing a knowledgable,
professional service, within everyones budget.

Look also at this:
10% discount for SAEC members on Manu tours
special trips for *BIRDWATCHERS*
TAILOR MADE TRIPS for you anywhere in Perú

Calle Plateros 360, Cusco, Perú, Tel. 51 84 238323 Fax 51 84 252696
e-mail: pantiac@mail.cosapidata.com.pe
website:www.pantiacolla.com

RIDE HIGH IN THE PERUVIAN ANDES!

* Experience the unique Peruvian Paso way of riding
* Relax in our beautiful guest cottages nestled in the Sacred Valley
* Close to Incan ruins, local markets and Machu Picchu
* Trips from 1 day to 12 days, all levels
* We speak Dutch, German, English, French and Spanish
*10% discount for SAE members

Dutch owners Eddie and Marge look forward to welcoming you to their home soon.
Call (51 84) 624 475 or email Perolc@terra.com www.perolchico.com

PERU INFORMATION

ECOLOGICAL ADVENTURES
MANU
JUNGLE SPECIALISTS

PLATEROS ST. 356 – CUSCO - PERU
PHONE-FAX +51– 84 - 225562
PHONE +51– 84 - 261640
Manuadventures@computextos.com.pe
Web site: http://www.cbc.org.pe/manu/

Come with us for a nature experience that you will never forget...
With our 20 years of experience operating the Manu National Park and as leaders in the market, we can offer you a program that will exceed your expectations...we have weekly fixed departure dates all year around (Sundays by bus, Tuesdays by plane) and custom made trips for birdwatchers with specialized bilingual guides.

10% DISCOUNT FOR SAE MEMBERS

STUDY SPANISH
...and experience the Inca Culture

Private and group lessons
Professional and Survival Spanish
Guest family or school accommodation
Sacred Valley school
Volunteer Work Program

AMAUTA
Calle Suecia 480
PO box 1164, Cusco,Peru
Tel 51 84 262345
Email:
amautaa@mail.cosapidata.com.pe

Q'ente
Adventure trips

Hiking the Inca Trail? Auzungate? Vilcabamba?
We have trips for all levels of ability. Our guides speak English and Spanish.
Come with us for an adventure of a lifetime!
Discount for SAE members
Call (51 84) 247836 or email qente@pol.com.pe

NIÑOS HOTEL, CUSCO
Beautiful hotel set in own courtyard, 5 minutes walk from Plaza. Hot water all day. Clean, comfortable and secure. Dutch owners.
All proceeds go towards helping Cusco´s street children.
We will give you a tale to tell.....
Tel: (51-84) 231 424 or email us on:
Ninos@correo.dnet.com.pe
9 Calle Meloq 442, Cusco

CASA DE LA SERENIDAD
Shamanic Therapy Center - Cusco
Rooms with a View
-Sacred journeys to all powerplaces including Machu Picchu, Amazonian Rainforest, etc. with shamanic ceremonies, rituals & meditation
- Ayawaska & despacho ceremonies
- Coca leaf readings
- Hypnotherapy, regression, reiki, & more
296A Tanda Pata, San Blas, Cusco.
Tel: (84) 22 28 51
Email: lloselvan@hotmail.com
Website: www.shamanspirit.net

blanketsinternational.com

Handwoven, 100% Wool Blankets from Momostenango, Guatemala

THE SAE HISTORICAL VIDEO SERIES

by Michael Ryan

To get the South American Explorers Video Collection underway, I got a few film-to-tape transfers made from my exensive 16mm film collection of historical documentaries about Latin America. The following films are available only through the SAE and are so unique that most members would find them interesting.

I would like to continue making available at least one or two historical documentary films about the Andean countries. I hope that my efforts are considered a contribution to the goals of the SAE as a whole. There is not much profit to be made in this sort of thing, but I do take pride in being able to do it.

Here are the first three videos in the SAE Historical Collection. To order, call 800-274-0568 or see the order form on page 63.

Rough Road to Panama, Rugged Road to Cape Horn: The Sullivan C. Richardson Pan American Highway Expedition, 1940-1941

A two part 60-minute video made from the rare documentary, filmed in color on Kodachrome, of the first successful attempt to drive an automobile from the United States to the tip of South America. Sullivan C. Richardson and two companions explore the route that would eventually become the Pan American Highway.

$15.95, Item #601

Wheels Across the Andes: The Armand Denis Expedition

A classic documentary account of 1940's South American exploration. Partly sponsored by the Chrysler Corp. to show the durability of their trucks, the Armand Denis expedition fords rivers and climbs mountains throughout Ecuador and Peru. Their final destination: Bolivia, where they film local festivals and conduct high-altitude research in human physiology. 30 minutes.

$15.95, Item #602

The Bridge and This Is Ecuador

Everything you ever wanted to know about the development of air transportation in South America but were afraid to ask. Two short black and white films portray South America during the World War II era. Willard Van Dyke's classic 1944 documentary, *The Bridge*, explains South America's potential for economic growth and takes a closer look at the development of air transportation on the continent. *This is Ecuador*, filmed in 1942 for the United States Office for Inter-American Affairs, highlights the nation's strategic importance as an American ally. 45 minutes.

$15.95, Item #603

IN MEMORY OF LASZLO BELA BERTY,

Pioneer of whitewater kayaking and rafting in South America

Jacenta Berty

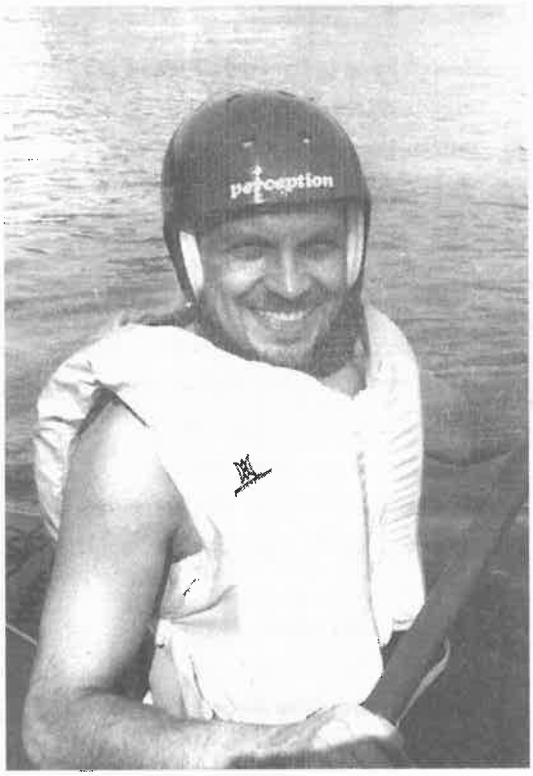
A 1975 National Geographic article on the Rio Apurimac in Peru stated, "No vessel could possibly survive the river's turbulence."

Laszlo Berty's response: "Wanna bet?" He quit his job, sold his car, grabbed his kayak and headed south. Over the next ten years he explored whitewater rivers in Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, Chile, and foremost in Peru, racking up 2,000 km of first descents, most of them solo.

Laszlo had a burning desire to explore the magnificent rivers of South America, but knew not a word of Spanish. When he arrived in Peru in the late 1970s the political atmosphere was tense. Loudspeakers blasted anti-American propaganda from the main square in Cusco. Military checkpoints flanked every town. The military broke up strikes with armored cars. Rumbling over the cobblestone streets, water cannons knocked down protesters. Once, during the Falklands War, Laszlo and I dodged bottles thrown at us on the streets of Cusco.

Laszlo overcame political obstacles in the same way he punched through whitewater—with intense focus. He frequently built friendships with local military authorities in order to curry favor. He once escorted a Colonel on a raft trip in exchange for the privilege of running rivers deemed "off limits" Laszlo stayed in Peru during the bad times—when the Sendero Luminosa (The Shining Path) guerillas seriously threatened Peru's stability, when a wave of bombings shook the cities, and when the police retaliated by detaining many of our Peruvian friends. For a while tourism shrank to almost nothing. Through it all Laszlo continued exploring, running rivers.

In the 1970s Laszlo started Amazon Expeditions, a whitewater rafting company that evolved into the Peruvian company Rio Bravo, S.A.. Headquartered in Cusco, the company financed our personal adventures and allowed us to show off Peru's natural wonders to others.



In the mid 1970s Laszlo scored a series of first descents. He almost lost his life making the first descent, solo in kayak, of the treacherous Rio Marañon. This was before the Sendero Luminosa occupied the Huallaga valley, making the river unapproachable. In 1979, Laszlo led a team of skilled rafters on the first descent of portions of the Rio Mantaro, including black water sections near the La Cabrizes copper mine. Laszlo made the first descent of the Rio Tambopata and he and I made the first descent, in kayak, of the nearby Rio Inanbari.

Starting in 1995, Laszlo began exploring the high-tech jungles of the Internet. He was about to launch his own Internet company, specializing in rapid Web applications development, when he died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage in Atlanta, Georgia on February 11, 1999.

Crashing through rapids or designing an Internet application, Laszlo approached life with passion. Better than anyone, Laszlo understood the extreme challenges that await one in wild, wonderful places. By putting your mental and physical limits to the test you change and are never the same person again.

Once, during a trip in 1975, Laszlo wanted to explore a remote section of high jungle in northern Peru, reportedly rich in ancient ruins. But there was a problem. The local Comandante refused access, claiming Laszlo would not come out alive. Others had gone, never to be heard from again. Laszlo was back the next day and, again, the Comandante said, "No."

And so it went for the next several days. Finally, on his fourth visit, after being turned down yet another time, a very frustrated Laszlo, on his way out of the office, paused, turned, looked at the official and said, "Sin adventura, que es la vida?" He was almost out of the door when the Comandante yelled, "Wait!" Laszlo got what he wanted.

"Sin adventura, que es la vida?"
"Without adventure, what is life?"

Laszlo Bela Berty
1946–1999

ASK THE DOCTOR

ASCARIASIS

Dr. Joseph Breault

Q: When I was in South America, I saw some children in a remote village that had worms in their stools. What is this and is it dangerous?

A: What you are describing sounds like an infection with roundworms. There are a number of species of nematodes (the scientific word for roundworms) that could be the culprit here. One likely candidate is *Ascaris lumbricoides*, the common roundworm, which is distributed worldwide and thought to infect more than one billion people—the most common parasitic infection in the world.

Q: What happens if I get infected with these worms? What symptoms will I have?

A: A CDC website (http://www.dpd.cdc.gov/dpdx/HTML/Ascariasis.htm) has a nice graphic of the parasite's life cycle and details what happens when you ingest an egg. Most travelers have no symptoms, or merely vague abdominal complaints, in part because they may have only mild infections. Some with heavier infections will have epigastric pain, nausea and vomiting, and lung inflammation from new worms maturing by passing through the lungs or passage of a mature pencil-sized worm. There can be more serious symptoms such as intestinal blockage.

Q: How do I find out if I have them?

A: A diagnosis is made by looking at a stool sample under a microscope for the eggs of the worms. A mature female living in your small intestine can produce close to a quarter million eggs a day! Each type of worm has it own characteristic ova or eggs. It can also be diagnosed by identifying a mature worm that passed out your rectum. If this happens please save it in a jar. Blood tests are not useful for determining if you have *Ascaris* worms, though a type of white blood cell called eosinophils is often elevated with these infections.

Q: How do I get treated if I do get these worms?

A. Albendazole, mebendazole or pyrantel pamoate will treat ascariasis. The choice of appropriate medication depends on which other worms are also present. If you have multiple types of worms and need more than one medicine to get rid of them, always make sure the first medicine you take is effective against *Ascaris* worms. This is because mature *Ascaris* worms that are irritated but not killed by drugs (or fever or starvation) have a tendency to migrate to unusual places rather than staying in your small intestine. This can result in appendicitis, pancreatitis, biliary obstruction, an intestinal perforation or obstruction.

Q: How can I prevent getting worms?

A: You want to prevent the eggs that are in contaminated soil from getting into your mouth. Avoid contaminated food—raw or uncooked vegetables are common culprits. Wash your hands with soap and water before eating or preparing food. Prevent children from pica (eating dirt).

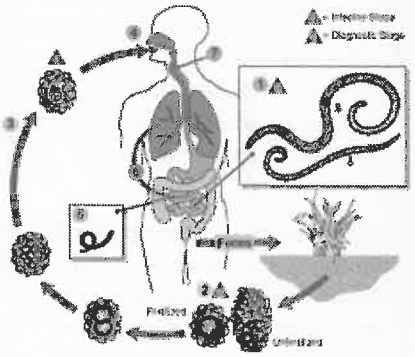
Q: Does this infection occur in the US?

A: Yes, it continues to be a minor problem in the southeastern part of the US.

Q: Where can I find more information?

A: In addition to the websites listed above, see

http://www.slis.ua.edu/cdlp/WebDLCore/clinical/infectious/byorganism/parasitic/ascariasis.htm



Dr.Joseph Breault graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine with combined MD and MPHTM (Tropical Medicine) degrees. Currently the staff physician at the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans, he has previously worked at the PHS Indian Hospitals in South Dakota and overseas in the Dominican Republic and Bolivia.You can email medical questions to Dr. Breault at jbreault@ochsner.org. Although the questions cannot be answered personally, a selection will be answered and published in future issues of the **South American Explorer.**

CUSCO CLUB

Empty spirit bottles, cigarette butts and coloured paper litter the clubhouse garden. A small patch of scorched grass is all that remains of a small bonfire. But these are not the leftovers of a Bonfire Night bash, early Thanksgiving thrash or pre-Christmas celebration.

These are the tell-tale signs of an ancient Andean ritual, a *despacho* ceremony to honour Pacha Mama (mother earth) and the Apus (mountain spirits) and to seek their forgiveness, their blessings and protection.

Dozens of different things are used in a *despacho* ceremony–miniature household items, plastic sweets, paper confetti, metals and crystals, feathers, llama fat, and gold and silver stars and moons. Fresh flowers, candles, agua de florida, spirits (the liquid variety) and, of course, coca leaves all play an important role–as do cigarettes since smoke is regarded as a cleansing agent.

Cusco is widely regarded as the archaeological and cultural centre of South America and also its spiritual capital. Because of this the Cusco Club is gathering information on shamanistic activities and rituals that welcome visitor participation.

On a matter of interest to hikers, Isobel's cookies are prized fuel for Club trekkers! Many thanks to those generous folk who hand-carried peanut butter and chocolate chips, felt tip pens, magazines and more to Cusco.

Rain, Cathy & Isobel.

Catastrophe

It has been all change since mum Caz and dad Boz left for Quito. I guess it was a bit of a shock to them, what with becoming grandparents and all! Reggae did not say much when the kittens were born. With the stress of parenthood we started quarrelling a lot. So one night, I went out cruising on my own and well, you know Cusco, famous for its nightlife.

After that, things were never the same between Reggae and me. I took my babies to the countryside. Reggae stayed a while longer at the clubhouse, then moved to a neighbouring house. He said he wanted a change, but I'm no spring kitten...a pretty lady cat lives there.

We kept trying to tell the new human, Rain, who moved in that fishcakes would sell better than chocolate cake. It didn't fly—she just muttered something about double chocolate cookies.

Michael, a volunteer, tidied up the shed we used to play in. Some helpful archaeologist chappie called Dan sorted through our maps while Jane organised the trip report room. All three have moved on now. My thanks to all who have asked about the kittens. They're growing up so fast. No doubt I will be a grandma before long. Ah well.

Jazz the Cat

LIMA CLUB

July in Lima was notable for parades, protests and political demonstrations by supporters of Fujimori and Toledo. International TV cameras rolled as rioters set fire to two downtown banks on July 28th. Lima's finest responded to local protestors with tear gas. Ironically, the sun came out the following day and the city was calm. After months of social and political unrest, life in Lima has returned to normal.

In Lima Club news, volunteers from all corners of the globe—the United States, New Zealand, Canada, Switzerland, and Peru—have been hard at work. Many thanks to Cate Ryan, Sarah Kaufman, Ruth Zublin, Andy Davies, Erica Fulker, Tilak Valdivia, and Holly Hobby, for their mighty labors and ever-present smiles! Our newly updated volunteer database, an excellent directory of various opportunities with social, scientific, and health related organizations in Peru and Bolivia, is a shining testimonial to countless hours of staff work.

Lastly, a heartfelt thanks to Tim Currie, who will be off to new adventures in the next few months. His energy in the clubhouse, and wacky sense of

humor, will be missed. Good Luck Tim!

Peace to our members, wherever you may be.

Tamara Houston and
Bruno Bonierbale

QUITO CLUB

Summer's done come and gone in Ecuador's highlands, and many travelers—like the humpback whales—have moved on....

But not before making their way through our door. Happily, the Quito Club can report a significant increase in memberships, at least for July and August.

Of course, these months are traditionally high season for us, but fewer strikes, little rain, less ash pouring down from Guagua Pichincha, and political tranquility didn't hurt.

The government negotiated a 40% decrease in Ecuador's "Brady" debt. This is roughly half of Ecuador's foreign obligations. This shows surprising confidence in the government's economic reforms and will give the country some much-needed relief in the years to come.

Ecuador is now officially "dollarized". The *sucre*, the country's old currency, ceased to be legal tender on September 13th. The U.S. dollar is now the official currency of Ecuador. It's strange to see dimes, nickels and pennies circulating freely down here. It's also sad for the memory of independence hero Mariscal Sucre, although Quito's modern downtown and international airport still bear his name. Incidentally, tourists arriving at Quito's airport will soon receive a welcome brochure produced by the American-Ecuadorian Chamber of Commerce. Better yet, thanks to the efforts of Alicia, our Assistant Manager, the South American Explorers will be prominently featured therein! Are we big time, or what?

Ecuadoreans are in the news. Mountaineer Ivan Vallejo soloed K2 without oxygen as a follow-up to his successful Everest climb of last year. Sixteen-year-old Giovanni Lapentti rocketed from the low 900s to the top 20 in men's doubles tennis. He and his older brother Nicolás were key players on the team that defeated England in the Davis Cup. Closer to home, club member and Chicago resident Lloy Johnston was crowned Ecuadorian champion in Tae Kwon Do in the most contested weight class. Inspired, staff member Simon has also taken up Tae Kwon Do. Alicia and Ana, on the other hand, are learning *capoeira*, a Brazilian martial dance.

"No news is good news." Guagua Pichincha, Quito's resident volcano, and Tungurahua, which is keeping Baños and surrounding areas alert, are hardly affecting tourism.

We happily welcome old friends Boz and Caz back to the Quito clubhouse. Boz is the new manager, replacing Diana Morris, who has moved up to Casa Mojanda by Otavalo. She remains active as regional manager and will continue her work with the La Tola project. Caz is coordinating volunteers for World Challenge but will continue to help out the Club. Alicia and the rest of the staff are as stable as rocks in this time of transition. We still need volunteers however!

Club projects are flourishing. The Volunteer Resources Desk (VRD) continues to expand. Trip reports are flooding in faster than Simon can catalog them. We have several thousand trip report cards by now and a full-fledged database is underway. Melani is taking a break as organizer of the weekly presentations. She will use the time to manage her just-opened Indian restaurant. In Melani's absence, Alicia, Ana, and Eddie have lined up several exciting events: a cultural history of the Amazon by an anthropology professor, a talk on rafting & kayaking in Ecuador, and an introduction to Ecuadorian Tigua art by Jean Colvin, a Fulbright scholar, F.O.D. (friend of Don), and frequent contributor to the magazine. Her talk coincides with Quito's annual "August, Month of the Arts."

Long-time supporter and member of the board, Jean Brown of Safari Tours, has donated a lovely photograph taken by her friend M. J. Kroll to the Club. We plan to auction it off, here in Quito and on-line, to make money for La Tola. Other generous contributions to the project have come from Marya Gnadz, Carolyn B., Clare Trimbur and Hannah Smith. Thanks also to Linda Ludwig of Ithaca for her donation to our book exchange.

NEWS SHORTS

At a Loss For Words

You think you've heard it all before—the world going to hell in a handcart, rainforest destruction, global warming, extinction of entire species, violence, teen pregnancy, addiction, moral decay, etc..

Well, there's more grim tidings. Did you know that over the last few centuries thousands of languages have been destroyed, "steamrollered" out of existence by a few dominating languages like English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, and Arabic.

There are roughly 6,000 languages being spoken today. It's estimated that half of these will die out in the next 100 years. That means that one language is dying out somewhere on the globe every two weeks. In addition, *Language Steamrollers* author Sarah Griffiths insists that only 10% of the 6,000 languages spoken today will be considered "safe" by the year 2100. These languages are vanishing from regions in South East Asia, Brazil and Africa.

In short, the outlook is bleak for Toba, De'cuana, Macushi, Mataco, Cofán, Cavineña, Panare, Trinitario, and many other Latin American languages. The upside? There's little likelihood that things will improve, but at least you will only have to read about it in one or two languages.

The Mile Die Club

It's the usual nightmare—first wisps of smoke come from the right engine, then flames, oxygen masks drop down, flight attendants look sick, the plane lurches uncontrollably, food trays and magazines fly around the cabin as the aircraft dives downward, BOOM, you're dead.

Now listen up, you're not going to believe this so we are going to say it twice. According to the Aviation Health Institute of the UK, more people die in their seats from ailments than die in crashes. According to the Aviation Health Institute of the UK, more people die in their seats from ailments than die in crashes. Got it? Or would you like to hear it a third time? According to the.....

Incredible, no? In 1998, 730 people died in crashes yet approximately 1,000 died of illness in flight. That's amazing. What illnesses? Dehydration, blood clotting, heart attack, cerebral hemorrhage, etc.. Wow! The next time you go to the lavatory on an airplane, check out the seats on the way. You'll probably spot a cold body or two that you used to think were just passengers who'd dozed off.

Anyway, it's good news no matter how you look at it. Instead of a fiery death in a plane crash, chances are you'll be done in by complications arising from consumption of the Salisbury steak or the vegetarian manicotti and die in your seat.

"The Pinochet Effect"

Being an ex-dictator in South America just ain't what it used to be. Time was you could loot the treasury, jail political dissidents, torture opponents, violate human rights, and then retire to a life of serenity.

No more, and all because of "The Pinochet Effect". Now, for the first time, there are actually people in South America that want to drag their former leaders from well-earned retirement and put them on trial for assorted crimes and atrocities. Of course this was unthinkable before General Pinochet's arrest. But times are a'changin.' The whole range of amnesties, pardons, and agreements that once protected an aging dictator are coming apart.

Chile's courts are skirting the 1978 amnesty law that, for many years, protected those accused of human rights abuses. It's gotten so bad that a number of senior retired officials have actually been arrested and charged as well.

What next? Pinochet's martyrdom could well be repeated in neighboring Argentina, where some of the former military junta (1976-1983) are under arrest, accused of participating in the kidnap of babies born to political prisoners. Even the venerable Alfredo Stroessner, former military dictator of Paraguay, isn't safe. A congressional commission in Brazil, where Stroessner is in

exile, is taking steps to indict the former South American leader and possibly extradite him to Paraguay. And in Uruguay, another commission is looking into what happened to hundreds who disappeared during the years when the country was ruled by the military.

All told, it's a grim situation when a man who's devoted long years to serving his country can be up and hauled before a court of justice and made to account for some old crimes which he can hardly remember.

The Virgin Marilyn

The Philistines are up in arms again. What is it this time? Well, you see, this cartoonist in Mexico took a picture of the Virgin of Guadalupe, cut her out, leaving the halo, and inserted a nude picture of Marilyn Monroe.

You should probably know, the Virgin of Guadalupe, called La Patrona, is one of the most revered images in Mexico. It dates back to 1531 when the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to an Indian. The legend goes that the image of the Virgin was imprinted on his clothes, which are preserved in a church in Mexico City. The Virgin of Guadalupe is venerated far and wide and her portrait hangs in many homes in this devoutly Catholic country.

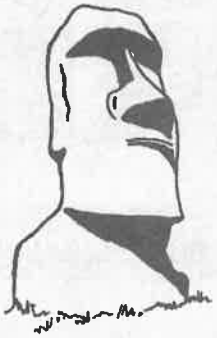
Given the above, it's not altogether surprising that the public would not universally rush to acclaim this original artist and his avante guard work. Indeed, the picture has provoked widespread protests and worse. Two hooligans, insensitive to the aesthetic merits of modern art, broke into the museum in Guadalajara where the altered La Patrona was on exhibit and rudely tore the artwork to pieces. Arrested, the vandals told police that the picture was an insult to Catholics. Later, Cardinal Rivera, the head of the Roman Catholic Church in Mexico, even condoned the destruction and put the blame on the artist.

There's a lesson here. If you happen to be tooling around Mexico and want to get along with the locals, don't track down a picture of Jesus, cut out the Savior, and insert a picture of Fabio. Just a thought.

Travelling to Easter Island?
Fascinated by this enigmatic island?
Check us out!

Rapa Nui Journal

...the premier source for Easter Island events and scientific studies.



Easter Island Foundation
P.O. Box 6774
Los Osos CA 93412

Contact us for a list of our Easter Island publications

Email: rapanui@compuserve.com

eXito *Latin America Airfare eXperts*

800-655-4053

- **Consolidator tickets** (from anywhere in the US or Canada)
- **Save 20-40 % vs. Airline prices**
- **Specializing in South America** (we don t do Europe!)
- **One-year tickets** (at a fraction of the normal price)
- **Customized itineraries** (visit 2-3 or more countries)
- **eXpert Staff** (we have all traveled to South America)
- **Airpasses** (Grupo Taca, Lan Chile, VARIG, etc.)
- **Student Tickets**

Machu Picchu • Galapagos • Aero Continente • trekking

For More info:
USA/Canada 1-800-655-4053 / local: 510-655-2154
Fax: (510) 655-4566
e-mail: exito@wonderlink.com www: http://www.exitotravel.com

eXito Travel, 1212 Broadway Suite 910, Oakland, CA 94612

Save Save Save!!

in Costa Rica, Guatemala Honduras & Ecuador

Whether shopping, dining, traveling, sending a fax or just getting a haircut, the **AmeriSpan Discount Card** will save you money.

Accepted by restaurants, hotels, tour operators, doctors, stores and other businesses.

AmeriSpan Unlimited
THE BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES
P.O. Box 40007 • Philadelphia, PA 19106-0007
USA & Canada 800-879-6640
Worldwide 215-751-1100
FAX 215-751-1986
Email ..... discountcard@amerispan.com
WWWeb ..... www.amerispan.com/card

Bradt Travel Guides

Far and away the best for South American explorers

www.bradt-travelguides.com

or contact us for a catalogue
Bradt Travel Guides
19 High Street, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 9QE England
Tel: +44 1753 893444 Fax: +44 1753 892333
Email: info@bradt-travelguides.com

discover the **AMAZON** with **EXPLORAMA**

world's longest **Canopy Walkway** adventure

BirdWatching over 500 species

over 250,000 acres of **Reserves** in primary rainforest

http://www.explorama.com
E-mail: amazon@explorama.com
USA (800) 707-5275
Fax (51-94) 25 2533 P.O.Box 446
Iquitos - Perú

15% discount for SAE club members

TREKKING IN THE ANDES - HORSE-BACK RIDING EXPEDI
JUNGLE TRIPS - ECOLOGIC - MYSTIC AND CULTURAL TC

ddress:
treet #339
Armas
) 84-243736
84-239669
84-241070

Fixed departure dates: Inca Trail to Machupiccu, Mt Ausangate, Vilcanota Mountain Range, Vilcabamba, Choquequiraw and Mt. Salkantay

AMERICA TOURS SRL presents ...

Spectacular downhill mountain biking in Bolivia

gravity assisted mountain biking — LA PAZ - BOLIVIA

"The cycling professionals" *recommended* by:
- Lonely Planet South America (2000)
- FootPrint South American Handbook (2000)
- the South American Explorers Club

and *featured* in:
- December 1999 Men's Health
- April-May 2000 NZ Adventure
- Summer 2000 Bizarre (UK),
- June 2000 BIKE (USA), and
- AA Adventure Travelers South America, 2000

Don't miss massive downhill rides like:
+ The World's Most Dangerous Road,
+ Zongo Valley,
+ Hasta Sorata,
+ The Jungle Rail Trail,
+ and many more...

Accept No Shabby Imitations
We use quality guides & quality bikes so you can enjoy your ride safely
Check out our web page (www.gamb.acslp.org) or email us direct (gravity@unete.com)

Footprint 2000

Footprint, publishers of the traveller's 'bible' the South American Handbook have launched a new wave of guidebooks in ***paperback****. The new format includes* ***colour photography****, exceptional* ***colour mapping*** *and a new* ***internal layout****. All in a* ***new up-to-date size****, in an ultra-tough, lightweight binding with* ***user friendly flaps*** *and with an exciting* ***new cover design****.*

Footprint for Latin America
South American Handbook 2000, Mexico & Central America Handbook 2000 and Handbooks to Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Venezuela, Cuba, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador & Galápagos.

Check out our website at **www.footprintbooks.com** for all the latest information.

"I carried the South American Handbook in my bag from Cape Horn to Cartanega and consulted it every night for two and a half months. And I wouldn't do that for anything else except my hip flask."
Michael Palin, BBC Full Circle.

Footprint Handbooks
www.footprintbooks.com

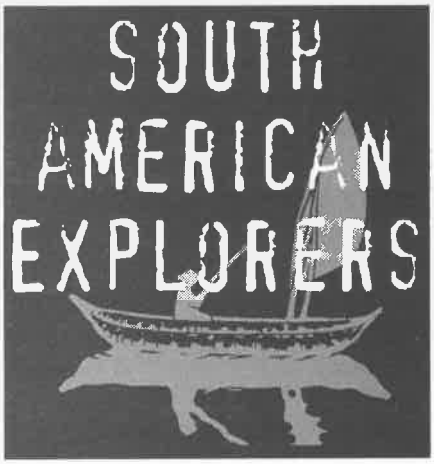
Angermeyer's Enchanted Expeditions

ecuador & galapagos islands

- **Galapagos Cruises**
- **Jungle Expeditions**
- **Highland Trekking**
- **Birdwatching**
- **Cultural and Archeological Programs**
- **Walking Tours**
- **Tourist Class Hostal: "The Orange Guest House"**

Guaranteed fixed departures for individual travelers on mainland Ecuador.
Weekly departures to Galapagos, indigenous markets, Cotopaxi National Park (seat in car rates).

Foch 726 y Av. Amazonas P.O. Box: 17-1200599 Quito - Ecuador
Fax: 593-2-569956 Ph: 593-2-569960 / 221305
E-mail: angermeyer@accessinter.net
Web Site: http://www.angermeyer.com



Daniel Buck

Adolph Bandelier

Adolph Francis Alphonse Bandelier was born in Switzerland in 1840 and moved to Highland, Illinois at a young age. His father established a bank, among other enterprises, in Highland's Swiss immigrant community. Bandelier worked for these family ventures for two unhappy decades, despite possessing neither aptitude nor interest in matters financial. His free time he dedicated to ethnographic and archaeological studies that focussed chiefly on Mexico and the Southwestern United States—an intellectual pursuit perhaps inspired by Alexander von Humboldt, whom Bandelier met at college in Switzerland.

In 1880, at the relatively mature age of 40, Bandelier decided to leave Highland. His biographer Jack Schaeffer tells of the "slightly-built middle-aged man of medium height, dark-eyed, dark-haired, fair-skinned, boarding a train" in St. Louis for Santa Fe, New Mexico, to keep an appointment with the Archaeological Institute of America. Over the next three decades he traveled widely in the Southwest, Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia. All went well until 1885, when his father's bank failed, impoverishing the family. Thereafter, Bandelier eked out a modest living from his research and writings, wholly dependent upon episodic commissions and honoraria, poor but happy.

Bandelier traveled thousands of miles by horse and on foot through the Southwestern United States, northern Mexico and the Yucatan. On one trip he and two colleagues were buried in a freak blizzard in eastern New Mexico. The sole survivor, he somehow bulled his way through the snow drifts to safety. On another occasion he trekked sixty-five miles in a raging sandstorm, arriving in Los Alamos as if he'd just stepped out for a smoke.

When he wasn't walking, Bandelier was writing. A sedulous researcher, he turned out dozens of papers, scads of newspaper articles, and several books, including *The Gilded Man*, on the El Dorado myth, and a novel, *The Delight Makers*, about life in a New Mexico Indian village. Stacks of his monographs remain unpublished.

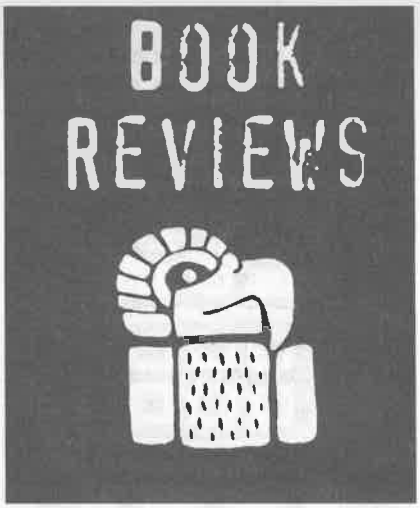
In the early 1890's, Bandelier won the sponsorship of Northern Pacific Railroad president and philanthropist Henry Villard to head up a

Adolph Bandelier

research effort on ancient civilizations in Peru and Bolivia. Soon after landing in Peru in 1892, his wife of thirty-two years died, and Bandelier married Fanny Ritter, a Swiss member of the expedition. She became his research assistant, collaborator, and, for all practical purposes, co-author. While in Peru, he ventured far afield away from the customary coastal and southern Andean digs, to explore the little-known Chachapoyas region and plot the Kuelap ruins.

Spooked out of Peru by a looming civil war, Bandelier ascended to the Bolivian altiplano in 1894, where he ranged over Tiwanaku, Illimani, and the islands of Lake Titicaca. At one point, his party was blockaded on Titicaca Island for more than three months. He finally escaped to Puno, where he continued his archaeological work at Sillustani. After returning to Bolivia, he camped for two months on the 15,400-foot peak of Huayna Potosí. His surveys of Titicaca, although periodically disrupted by *campesino* revolts on both the Bolivian and Peruvian littorals, led to his encyclopedic work, *The Islands of Titicaca and Koati*, published by the Hispanic Society of America in 1910.

Ever the scholar, Bandelier died with his boots on in Seville in 1914 while researching the history of New Mexican pueblos in the colonial archives. His friend, President Woodrow Wilson, named the Swiss scholar's beloved region of the Jemez Mountains near Los Alamos the Bandelier National Monument in his honor.



Shipwreck

DAVE HORNER

Sheridan House, Dobbs Ferry, NY, 1999, 295 pages with photos and illustrations, $24.95.

Three million pesos of registered treasure went down when the *Queen of the South Sea* sank in 1654. Some 10 million pesos were later recovered. This remarkable discrepancy eloquently bespeaks the skullduggery of the numerous military officers, merchants and private citizens in the New World. Gold, silver and jewels registered on the ship's manifest was subject to heavy taxation and even possible confiscation if Spain's King Phillip felt particularly impecunious when the ship arrived in Spain. So those less mindful of the needs of royalty smuggled their treasure aboard galleons as unregistered cargo.

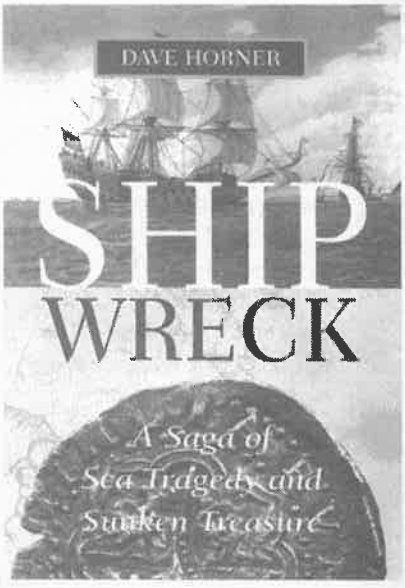
Author Dave Horner recounts that everyone was a smuggler in those days. Passengers and crew vied, "for a piece of the action and an opportunity to participate in the immense profits to be made from almost every imaginable aspect of New World trade." Horner traces the history of the treasure that left Callao (then Peru) onboard the *Queen of the South Sea*, the Royal Flagship of the South Sea Armada on October 18. Bound for Cadiz, Spain, it sank in shallow water off the coast of Ecuador barely two weeks later.

Diego Portichuelo de Rivadeneira, the chaplain of the Lima Cathedral, was hitching a ride back to Spain aboard the unfortunate *Queen of the South Sea*. Using the chaplain's diary, Horner describes efforts, spanning the next three and a half centuries, to salvage the cargo. Little did Diego Portichuelo de Rivadeneira know, that the captain had almost no maritime experience and, indeed, had purchased his position as commander of the ship. Furthermore, the captain was notably lacking in discipline. In recounting the harrowing saga of the galleon's foundering, the Padre tells of, "A ship's officer [who] later testified he witnessed [the commander] naked in his cabin ... eating the hallucinatory and addictive paraguas plant, a narcotic mushroom."

Salvagers recovered much of the treasure almost immediately after the ship ran aground. It was transferred to Portobello, on the Caribbean, for shipment to Spain via Havana and Vera Cruz. Once again Padre Diego set sail this time on the *Maravillas*, a treasure galleon bound for Spain. Alas, the Maravillas ripped a hole in its hull and sank in the northwest Bahamas on January 4, 1656.

Both ships sank in shallow coastal waters, leaving many survivors to provide eyewitness testimony about locations and circumstances. Numerous courts of inquiry set up to investigate the losses, punish those responsible, and recover what the king felt belonged to the Crown also relied on the crews of other galleons for information.

For his research Horner delved into original archival materials in libraries and records offices in Spain, England, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Peru, Ecuador, Bermuda, the Bahamas and the U.S. His studies, however, were not solely motivated by scholarly curiosity. He, too,



hoped to find sunken treasure. As a treasure hunter, Horner put up with years of Ecuadorian red tape before he got permission to salvage the *Queen of the South Seas* in 1997. His book describes his quest for the treasure and the underhanded dealings of rival treasure hunters that included the civil and military branches of the Ecuadorian government.

What happened to Padre Diego? After surviving two shipwrecks and capture by the British, he returned to Spain. There, a bureaucratic administration squeezed the good Padre out of the church hierarchy. He died in poverty in1678 at the age of 64, but left behind a richly detailed diary recounting the fate of the *Queen of the South Sea*, the men who sailed on her, smuggled with her, stole from her and risked much to salvage her.

MARTIN HIMMELFARB

www.TransitionsAbroad.com

A traveler, not a tourist?

We understand. For 23 years Transitions Abroad Publishing has been helping independent people of all ages and budget levels go overseas not as tourists but as travelers.

Whether you want to work, study, live, or simply travel overseas, our publications will help you get there and do that.

Visit our web site at [www.TransitionsAbroad.com] or call 800-293-0373 for a free packet of information about our publications: *Transitions Abroad* magazine, the *Alternative Travel Directory*, and *Work Abroad*.

Trust Transitions Abroad—the alternative travel resources that have been helping people satisfy their wanderlust since 1977.

WEATHER UNDERGROUND

http://www.wunderground.com

You're probably too young to remember the bomb-making terrorist group called the Weathermen. Rumor had it that when you called these "meteorologists" to get the weather report you'd hear; "Chicago, BOOM!", "New York, BOOM BOOM!", "Los Angeles, BOOM BOOM BOOM!".

The Weather Underground is a different animal. This site lets you click anywhere on a world map and get a local weather report. Going to Montevideo? Click on Uruguay and retrieve the latest skinny, including the visibility, windchill, humidity, dewpoint (???), and temperature. Maybe this is more than you want to know. But the graphics are cheerful.

MARTIN CHAMBI

http://www.ulima.edu.pe/GalVirtual/Chambi/w_caratula.htm

Is your self-esteem down because of repeated losses in Trivial Pursuit? Stumped by Regis's 250,000 dollar questions on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" Expand your knowledge base with this site. And it could be lucrative. Reliable sources assure us that Regis, in the near future, is going to ask a contestant to identify Martin Chambi. To the amazement of your friends, you'll know.

It helps to speak Spanish. If you do, you'll be able to read all about Señor Chambi's life. If you don't, no matter. There's an extensive interactive gallery of his black and white photographs (there wasn't any color back then) that you can peruse.

Planning on submitting photographs to the *South American Explorer*? Now that we've introduced you to this site, we expect Chambi quality or better.

CUZCO GUIDE

http://www.cuscoguide.com

Pass yourself off as a Cusco native. Get to know the town from the people who live there.

In the mood for a little Vietnamese food? Click on "Going Out" for a complete list of restaurants, bars, and night clubs, all reviewed by a discerning local. Find out if the dining establishment is a hole in the wall, a gringo hangout, or an authentic Peruvian culinary experience. And there's more. Other features include information on trips & hikes, Sacred Valley, etc.. Up for a good deed or two? Check out the community volunteering opportunities. News & culture? Good information on that, as well as safety in the city, language lessons, even a notice board. And that's just for starters.

AMAZON ROAD

http://www.AmazonRoad.com

Get a haircut and get a real job. "Ahhh, man," you say? "I'm not ready to be a slave to the capitalistic system yet." Not to fear. This site tells you how to travel the world and make money doing it.

Amazon Road is a worldwide employment network for backpackers and budget travelers. Go to the job postings section for a list of voluntary and paid positions all over the globe. It's still a bit sparse but certain to expand. Already part of the capitalist system? Here's your chance to exploit some cheap labor. Post your own employment opportunities. Take a peek at the bulletin board, join the discussion forum and interact with other globe-trotters.

Just a thought. You might consider a haircut before your interview.

THE BATHROOM DIARIES

http://www.thebathroomdiaries.com

Plop-plop, whiz-whiz, what a relief it is. Or is it? A bug infested, rank-smelling, dingy outhouse is a beastly experience for any digestively operating human.

But this site can help. The Bathroom Diaries let's you search by country for clean bathrooms worldwide. Stuck in Buenos Aires and need to go? Head for the nearest cybercafe to find out everything you want to know about a john—location, cleanliness, safety, hours, price, showers, and even celebrities seen using the facilities.

Had your own gut-wrenching bathroom experience? Join other bathroom veterans on this site as they share their horror stories from the loo. Post your own for the masses to read.

Take solace, laugh heartily, plan for upcoming bathroom breaks judiciously. A visit to this site is a must for every toilet-trained adult.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF CHOLILA

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/danne/tour.htm

Sure, you would like to walk in the South American footsteps of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid but finances are a little tight. No matter. Now you can do it virtually with a click or two of your mouse. It's all here. Visit Cholia—the Patagonian cabin hideaway that Butch and Sundance fled to—on screen. View black and white photographs of the daring duo, scroll down through a selection of recent pix of the cabin, and read the romantic history of the outlaws. Its better than watching High Noon. And, if research is your bag, there is an extensive bibliography of sources as well as a link to outlaw historian Dan Buck's website.

Want to match the speed of your draw against Butch or Sundance? This interactive showdown is in the works.

GLOBAL GAY & LESBIAN TRAVEL

www.viajartravel.com

The premier (though, perhaps the only) website devoted exclusively to gay and lesbian travel. The page to go to for information on gay-friendly resorts (and a few not so friendly places to avoid), hot spots, advice, travel tips, and more. Includes gay-specific advice on bars, neighborhoods, etc...

Seeking a traveling partner? Go to the friends forum and chat with other gay and lesbian travelers looking for travelling companions. Visit the travel store to peruse gay and lesbian travel literature. And if you are in the mood for first-hand accounts there is a wide variety of trip reports, of interest to people of any sexual orientation.

TROPIC
ecological adventures

Winner of the 1997 ToDo! Award for Socially Responsible Tourism

ECUADOR'S LEADING ECOTOURISM OPERATOR
Nature Lodges * Community Programs * Birdwatching * Diving * Trekking * Photography

AMAZON * GALAPAGOS * ANDES
tropic@uio.satnet.net
www.tropiceco.com

Av. República E7-320 y Almagro, Edif. Taurus, Dpto 1-A.
Quito-Ecuador
Tel.: (+593-2)-225 907; 234 594. Fax: 560 756

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS: Ads for Issue 63 must be received by November 28, 2000. You must send payment (check drawn on U.S. bank, or Visa, MasterCard, or Discover number and expiration date) with copy.

GUIDES

WANT TO GO CLIMBING? ECUADORIAN ALPINE INSTITUTE has over 16 years of professional guiding experience. Let us sweat the small stuff! www.ecuadorexplorer.com/eai. (62)

CLIMBING ECUADOR The most inexpensive climbing company with certified guides. We offer only the best service and equipment. www.moggely.com Tel: 02-554-984. 4X4 transport. SAE members 10% discount. (62)

LIMA-English-Speaking Driver/Guide for Airport Transfers and Reservations. Shopping and Sightseeing Tours. Experienced, Dependable and Affordable Service. Hourly and Group Rates. Contact "MONICA" email vc_monica@hotmail.com, phone 51-1 4255087, cell 51-1 9430796, Internet www.perutravelnet.com/monica. (62)

ARTS, CRAFTS

Hand-woven 100% wool blankets from Momostenango, the Guatemalan highlands weaving center. Lots of designs, all in three sizes. BLANKETSINTERNATIONAL.COM. E-Mail staff@blanketsinternational.com. (63)

WANTED FOR IMPORT TO USA: Fair-trade fine furniture made from salvaged wood. Must not destroy living trees or underpay labor. Contact: plummer@apexmail.com, (651) 644-8930. (62)

HOTELS, LODGING

HOSTAL CASA SOL-QUITO, ECUADOR welcome home! At Casa Sol you will find hospitality and a warm family environment. Central location in the new town, quiet rooms, singles $12-15, doubles $22-26, suites $38, discount to SAE members. Calama 127 y 6 de Diciembre. Tel: +593-2-230798, e-mail: sasasol@ecuador explorer.com, web: www.ecuadorexplorer.com/casasol/home. (62)

HOSTAL DE LAS ARTES, LIMA. Colonial style, member-recommended hostal near Lima SAEC. Inexpensive rooms from $6. Quiet, safe, friendly. Dutch owned. Tel: (511) 433-0031. E-mail: artes@terra.com.pe; InterNet: http://arteswelcome.tripod.com; Jiron Chota 1460, Lima 1, Peru. (62)

CLOSE TO SAE LIMA, family run Hostal Iquique. Friendly staff, comfortable rooms, use of kitchen facilities. Airport pickups available from $10. Special rates for groups and SAE members. Single Room $7.50, $11 with bath. Double Room $9.50, $15 with bath. Shared rooms $3. Jr. Iquique 758, Lima 5, Peru. Telefax (51-1) 433-4724, Telephone (55-1) 423-3699. http:// barrioperu.com.pe/hiquique, hiquique@terra.com.pe. (62)

FRIEND'S HOUSE in Lima $6/person. A charming place to accommodate you. Family atmosphere, near the ocean in Miraflores. Breakfast, hot shower. Jr Mango Capac 368 Miraflores (between the 9th and 10th block of Ave Larco. Tel 051-1-446 6248 email: helmo18@yahoo.com (62)

Per issue rate for classified ads:
LIFE MEMBERS: Free first 25 words.
OTHER MEMBERS:
Non-commercial: $10 first 25 words.
Commercial: $30 first 25 words.
NONMEMBERS:
Non-commercial: $20 first 25 words.
Commercial: $40 first 25 words.
Each additional word $.50
Note: E-mail addresses and internotional phone numbers count as 2 words. All classifieds currently running will expire with Issue number that appears at the end of the ad, e.g. (61).
Ads for Issue 62 must be prepaid and received by December 1, 2000.

GUEST HOUSE IN LIMA PERU. Comfortable rooms, fully equipped kitchenette, private baths, hot water, cable TV, fluent English; $12 per person daily. Airport pickup available $10. Phone:(51-1) 471-4419; Fax (51-1) 2427492; email: americana@terra.com.pe Internet: http:// www.hostalamericana.com/. (62)

"THE NEW PLAZA FRANCIA INN PENSION" recommended by Lonley Planet 2000 edition page 136.Rufino Torrico 1117 Altura Cuadra 9 Avda Gracilaso De La Vega. Lima 1 Also Single 11 US, Matrimonial and Double available for$14 US. Dorm room $7 US per person. $1 off for reserving in advance, SAEC members, ISIC cards, Additional service airport pickup available. Send flight details by email to our driver. More info: franciasquareinn@yahoo.com cel phone: 945 4260. (62)

QUITO. WOMEN'S HOSTAL EVA LUNA. $5.00/night. Kitchen and laundry. Quiet and secure. Amazonas area. Contact Safari. Tel: 593-2-234-799 or P.O. Box 17-11-6060, Quito. We hold mail. (62)

ENCHANTED ISLAND - MUISNE, ESMERALDAS - MAPARA HOSTAL. Relax in total tranquility in our beautiful hotel on an island with no cars! Family atmosphere, international food, tours of mangroves, shrimp farms and lots more! We speak Spanish, French, English. Reservations: Quito 593-2-434-147, Muisne 593-5-480-147, S.F. 415-665-1211. E-mail: mapara@accessinter.net or mapara2@aol.com. (62)

JOHNNY'S LODGING HOUSE-Caamano 145 y Colon, Quito, Ecuador. Rooms with hot showers, communal kitchen, washer and dryer, TV and sun terrace. Quiet neighborhood near buses and supermarket. Single $5, double $6. Tel: 521-974 (62)

CULTURA RESERVATION CENTRE, Quito: A group of independent hotel owners with a variety of beautiful places around Ecuador in one central office. Tel/Fax: 5932 558889. E-mail: info@ecuadortravel.com (62)

CASA MOJANDA, Mountainside Inn and Farm is nestled in the countryside 10 minutes from Otavalo. Adobe cottages, beautiful views, organic garden, Gourmet home-cooked meals, horseback riding, hiking to the cloud forest, lakes or waterfalls, extensive library & Japanese Style hot tub. Family owned and operated. 593-9-731-737, mojanda@uio.telconet.net, www.casamojanda.com.Discount for SAE members. (62)

OTAVALO, ECUADOR. Ali Shungu, Hotel/Restaurant. Hacienda-like setting, 4 blocks from Indian Market, 16 rooms, 2 family apartments. Fireplace, Garden, Patio, Mountain Views, Hummingbirds, Friendly Service. Gourmet Vegetarian & International Meals. Shuttle Bus from Quito, Tour

Information, American owned. Call 593-6-920750. Write: Casilla 34, Otavalo. E-mail: alishngu@uio.telconet.net. Visit our website at www.alishungu.com. (62)

CAFE CULTURA: In Quito-English owned hotel: beautiful colonial house centrally located in new part of town (Robles y Reina Victoria). 24 bedrooms, all with private bathroom. Logfires/garden/lots of atmosphere. Café serves our famous breakfasts, lunch, and English cream teas. Tel/Fax: 593-2-224-271. E-mail: info@cafecultura.com; Web: www.cafecultura.com.(62)

THE MAGIC BEAN-Restaurant, coffee house and hotel. Great location, comfortable, clean. Close to all the good restaurants and shopping. In the new town. Friendly, helpful American-owned, located at Foch 681 y Juan Leon Mera, Quito. Tel: 566-181. Shared rooms and bath $7 pp, double with private bath $20. (IC)

BLACK SHEEP INN-ecological lodge located in the heart of the Andes. Great day hiking, treks, horseback riding, gourmet vegetarian food, organic gardens, clean air and bright stars. Close to Laguna Quilotoa, Rio Toachi Canyon, cloud forest and indigenous markets. Three hours from Latacunga. For information: Tel: 593-3-814-587. Email: innfo@blacksheepinn.com or www.blacksheepinn.com. (62)

PERU ANDINO GUEST HOUSE, when you visit Huancayo stay with our family, safe, local info available, clean with hot showers, kitchen facilities, laundry, free storage. Our family shares with you the Andean culture, prepares typical meals, affordable tours around the region. Free bus station pick up. website: www.geocities.com/peruandino-1/ email: peruandino@mixmail.com or peruandino_1@yahoo.com. Address: Psje San Antonio 113 Huancayo Peru. Tel:(51-1)22-3956. (61)

EXPLORERS INN. WORLD RECORDS: 595 species birds, 1200+ butterflies, 149 dragonflies. In the Tambopata Nature Reserve, Puerto Maldonado. For reservations and information contact Peruvian Safaris, Alcanfores 459-Miraflores Lima tel: 447 8888 fax:241 8427. e-mail: sSafaris@amauta.rcp.net.pe; Web site: http://peruviansafaris.com/. (62)

PENSION JOSE LUIS. Cozy apartments in a private house. Family atmosphere with independence. Cooking and laundry facilities, safe, nice and quiet location, 10 minutes from the center of Miraflores: Francisco de Paula Ugarriza #727 San Antonio, Miraflores 18 Lima. English-speaking owner. Rooms with private bath, hot water 24 hours; capacity 20 rooms, Cable TV. Public phone, fax, e-mail. Price: US$12 per person. Breakfast and taxes included. Reservations: Tel. (51-1) 444-1015; Fax. (51-1-446-7177; Internet Web Page: http://www.hoteljoseluis.com. E-mail: hoteljl@joseluis.com (62)

ACCOMMODATIONS

EXPLORERS INN. WORLD RECORDS: 595 species birds, 1200+ butterflies, 149 dragonflies. In the Tambopata Nature Reserve, Puerto Maldonado. For reservations and information contact Peruvian Safaris, Alcanfores 459-Miraflores Lima tel: 447 8888 fax:241 8427. e-mail: sSafaris@amauta.rcp.net.pe; Web site: http://peruviansafaris.com/. (62) Trips

BOLIVIAN AMAZON. Expertly outfitted paddling tours. Previous paddling experience not required. No motors. Great wildlife. Beautiful scenery. New jungle treks now offered. Lots of options. Exploratory and customized trips available. Rainforest Expeditions, P.O. Box 2242 Nevada City CA 95959 (Tel/Fax) 530-478-1957, rainfrst@netshel.net, www.rainforest-expeditions.com (62)

LANGUAGE

YOUR BEST LINK TO QUALITY SPANISH SCHOOLS Ecuador, Peru, Guatemala, Mexico, Costa Rica, Spain. Superior service at Language Link. Tel: (800) 552-2051. E-mail: info@langlink.com. Website: www.langlink.com (63)

THE BEST PRICE FOR PRIVATE SPANISH LESSONS! Private or group classes with native Spanish speakers in beautiful Arequipa, Peru. For info (on classes, food, lodging, and excursions) call Rocio Oporto at ++51-54-286929 or ++51-54-694582, post mail: La Perlita 103, Arequipa, Peru, email: claro@unsa.edu.pe, read more about us at www.unsa.edu.pe/pp/claro. 5% discount for SAE Members (62)

Cuenca city is recommended for students from all over the world and linguistics experts, to learn Spanish. **"Equinoccial"** is the best language school in Cuenca. Address: Luis Cordero 9-32. Phone: (593-7) 834-758. E-mail: eee@cue.satnet.net WebSite: www.equinoccial.edu.ec (62)

OPPORTUNITIES

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS: The leading operator for Nature, Cultural & Adventure travel in South America is looking for enthusiastic people with 2 years of Sales & Customer service experience. Office position requiring excellent communication skills, attention to details,& good knowledge about South America. Send resume to Southwind Adventures, P.O. Box 621057, Littleton, CO 80162, Fax (303) 972-0708 or E-mail: info@southwindadventures.com. (62)

HELP WANTED AT SAEC: The South American Explorers Club is looking for volunteers! Intermediate to advanced Spanish language ability is a plus. Travel in Latin America, especially in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, is preferred. Are you an administrative wiz? Experienced with IBM-compatible computers? Do you love people, LOTS of people? Interested? Stop in at the Quito Clubhouse (Jorge Washington 311 y L. Plaza), the Lima Clubhouse (Avenida Portugal 146), or the Cusco Clubhouse (930 Avenida del Sol)! (CL)

PUBLICATIONS, MAPS, VIDEOS, MUSIC, GAMES

PLAY Z. A game of South American Adventure. Follow Fawcett in his quest for Z. $23.95 write: ZCo., 387 VanNess, Lindsay, CA 93247. Or www.lostcities.net. (62)

ADVENTURE! Live the dream. FREE newsletter subscription. www.lonewolfadventure.com. (62)

SOUTH AMERICAN JOURNEY VIDEO, 1 hr. 14 min. From Angel Falls to Tierra del Fuego a year long (1998-1999) independent driving tour including Antarctica and Galapagos. $20 Jean Andreen, 811 Kings Road, Newport Beach, CA 92663 (62)

FIELD GUIDE TO THE TREES AND BUSHES OF THE SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS Featuring 136 photos. Text in English and Spanish. Available at the city of Cusco, or from the SAE. Find it at www.interaccess.com.pe/tree. (62)

TRANSITIONS ABROAD MAGAZINE. America's #1 Guide to international work, living, study, and independent travel. 20th year. $24.95/six issues. Call for a FREE sample issue. (800) 293-0373. (TR)

THE BLOOMSBURY REVIEW, a Book Magazine for discriminating readers. Reviews, interviews, essays, poetry, and more. Send $18 for 8 issues (one year), or $3.50 for a sample copy to: The Bloomsbury Review, 1762 Emerson St, Denver, CO 80218-1012 USA. (TR)

CENTER FOR ARCHAEOASTRONOMY Box X, College Pk, MD 20740. Journal with news, expedition reports, articles, reviews, conference reports. $20/year-person, $30/year-institutions. Outside US add $3 postage. (TR)

TRIPS

Small group adventures for the independent traveler in Peru, Bolivia, and Costa Rica. All transportation and accomodation provided. AmeriCan Adventures & Roadrunner. Call 1-800-TREK-USA www.americanadventures.com. (65)

BRAZIL RAINFOREST. Scottish and Brazilian family run Cape Cod country inn (stay@overlookinn.com) and Amazon rainforest jungle lodge (swallows@internext.com.br) with riverboat tours. Trekking, canoeing, wildlife, homecooking. Visit www.overlookinn.com 508-255-1886. (62)

AMAZON CANOPY WALKWAY.... Travel with EXPLORAMA, successfully operating Lodges in the Amazon 37 years. Experience the Spectacular View from the WORLD'S LONGEST CANOPY WALKWAY. Paddle along the river at night. View PINK DOLPHINS. Fish for PIRHANAS. Explore thousands of acres of primary rainforest reserves around Explorama's five lodges including remote ExplorTambos and the new CEIBA TOPS, a resort on the Amazon. Visit <www.explorama.com>. 15% discount for SAEC members making direct advance reservation with Explorama, Box 446, Iquitos, Peru. Fax (51 94)25-2533. e-mail <amazon@explorama.com>. (62)

BOLIVIA and PERU Feb-Mar. 2001: Trips that are different from the rest. See http://www.public.usit.net/rfinch/boliperu.html GUATEMALA May 2001: Caving, whitewater, Mayan ruins, and active volcano climb. Contact Dr. Ric Finch, 299 Allen Hollow Rd., Cookeville, TN 38501rfinch@tntech.edu (62)

AL SAFARI TOURS. Jeeps for adventures. Custom-made expeditions or join one of our groups for hiking, llama trekking, camping etc. Ecuador's biggest and best climbing company. Full logistic support for your own expeditions. Tel: 1-800-434-8182. Fax 593-2-220-426. Email fertur@terra.com.pe (62)

BOLIVIAN AMAZON. Expertly outfitted paddling tours. Previous paddling experience not required. No motors. Great wildlife. Beautiful scenery. New jungle treks now offered. Lots of options. Exploratory and customized trips available. Rainforest Expeditions, P.O. Box 2242 Nevada City CA 95959 (Tel/Fax) 530-478-1957, rainfrst@netshel.net, www.rainforest-expeditions.com (62)

ETCETERA

PIZZA PIZZA, great selection of fresh made pizzas, organic salads, salad bar, coffees and desserts. Relaxed and friendly atmosphere. English, Spanish, French spoken. Santa Maria 126 y Diego de Almagro, Quito. 228-251. Email: mbarreiro@usa.net. (62)

Wonder about COLOMBIA? http://poorbuthappy.com/colombia Find out cool places to go, what to avoid and how to cure thataguardiente headache. We are a community of colombialovers with travel tips, discussions, articles, daily updated newslinks and lots more. If you're going anywhere near Colombia, don't miss us! (62)

WE NEED NEWS! Just about to toss out that New York Times as you get off your plane in Quito, Lima or Cusco? What about that old Newsweek you've already read? Don't throw it away! Our Clubhouses in South America need news from abroad! (CL)

DESPERATELY SEEKING COPY MACHINE. Got a Xerox photocopier kicking around? Care to make a donation to help us out? Please contact the Lima office at saelima@terra.com.pe (CL)

HANDCARRIES WANTED: Don't go to Lima, Cusco, or Quito empty-handed! We are always looking for people to carry library books, magazines, equipment, etc. If you think you will have some extra room, contact: South American Explorers Club, 126 Indian Creek Road, Ithaca, NY 14850; Tel: (607) 277-0488. (CL)

KEEP US INFORMED! Remember how vital those TRIP REPORTS were to your last sojourn to Machu Picchu, your dissertation on Patagonian penguins, your tour of the Pantanal on horseback? Submit them on-line at www.samexplo.org, send them via e-mail, or call, write, or fax the SAEC for blank trip report forms. SAEC: explorer@samexplo.org. 126 Indian Creek Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607-277-0488. (CL)

On High

It's like you don't have a friend in the world. Soroche, or altitude sickness, is awful. Those that get it know the symptoms—headaches, nausea, pounding temples, dry heaves, and a pervasive malaise. Worse yet, the usual remedies for soroche—Diamox and coca tea—are only palliatives at best.

Enter *Ginkgo biloba*, herbal supplement widely taken to improve memory. In clinical trials climbers taking *Ginkgo biloba* were half as likely to experience acute mountain sickness as those taking a placebo. According to the study, it is particularly effective for slow ascents.

Does it work better than the traditional remedies? Who can say. It is too soon to tell. On the other hand, if *Ginkgo biloba* doesn't work on your attitude sickness, you may end up with a better memory of the whole beastly soroche experience.

Photo Opportunity

It's highly unlikely, but just maybe you're actually the ace photographer you think you are. Now you can find out. At www.ShareYourWorld.com you can put your very best photographs and videos on the web and maybe turn a buck.

Come one, come all-ShareYourWorld wants the work of amateurs, hobbyists, and even professional photographers. And maybe you can go big-time. CEO Tom McInerney says, "Our buyers include travel magazines, advertising companies and travel Web sites that are desperate for fresh new pictures and videos of popular destinations."

There is no charge to post your snapshots and videos on this site—ShareYourWorld makes its dough by taking a 25% cut from the sale price. So, start uploading. What do you have to lose? Oh, and for the tip, the SAE wants a 50% cut as well.

Taquile Sunrise

Members, even non-members, sit up and take note. This is important.

In 1937 the islanders of Taquile in Lake Titicaca pooled their savings and, over the next two decades, bought the island. Today, Taquile is completely owned by its inhabitants. That's why there are no big, garish hotels on the island to blight its natural beauty and charm.

But all of this is at risk. Big tour companies in Puno are falsely telling travelers that it's impossible to visit Taquile except in organized groups. And, unfortunately, when tourists come in organized groups the Taquileños don't get a share of the profit. It's critical that visitors know how easy it is to go to Taquile on their own.

The Taquileños offer travelers communally-owned services, such as collective boats, craft shops, tour guides, porters, and a restaurant, with all profits benefiting the island community. The true culture-seeker should not pass up the opportunity to spend a night in the home of a Taquileño family.

Take a stand! Do not let the Puno tourist business destroy the Islanders of Taquile and their way of life. For more information contact: Sr. Gabriel Huatta Huatta, Presidente de la Asociacion Artesanal de la Comunidad de Taquile, Apt. 312, Puno, PERU.

And remember, no man, or for that matter, no woman, is an island.

Proper English

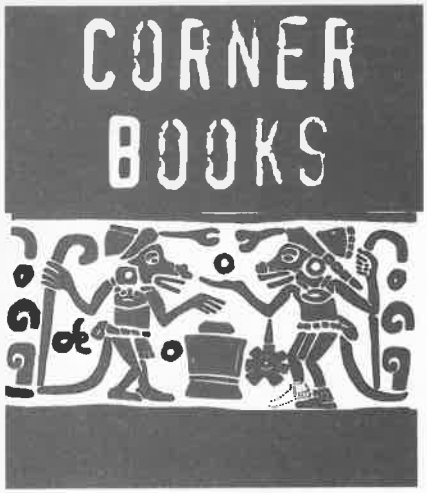
"Join the Navy and see the world." Thousands read that and went to sea. Of course, some got sea sick.

Well, all that's changed. Now the slogan reads, "Teach English and see the world." And you don't have to worry about a rocking ship or time in the brig.

English is the international language of commerce and technology. For your information, there are more people learning English in China than there are Americans. That's a lot of students. And that's just China. Today more than 300 million people speak English and many more want to learn it. In the words of Elizabeth Reid, author of *Native Speaker: Teach English and See the World*, "There's a huge demand to learn to speak English and native speakers are preferred."

Reid's book outlines the steps to take to find English teaching jobs overseas. There are also numerous tips in choosing the right locale, setting up your own language school, and making your English class interesting and fun. Part travel guide, part career manual, this 96-page book is what you need to get going. $5 (plus $3 shipping), call 1-800-431-1679, or write to Bueno Books, 914 Pine Drive suite F, Caldwell, TX 77836.

You ain't got no time for dis stuff? Maybe you shouldn't be an English teacher anyway.



NEW EDITION

Chile Handbook

CHARLIE NURSE AND BEN BOX
(FOOTPRINTS HANDBOOKS)

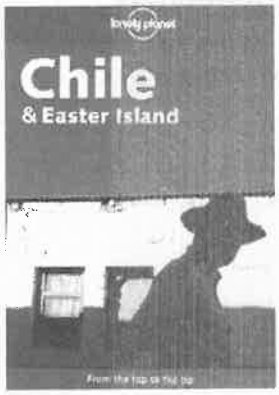
The most up-to-date guide to Chile available. Contains suggested itineraries, notes on adventure tourism, climbing, trekking, skiing, parapenting and hang-gliding, canyoning, kayaking, and more. Rates hotels (in every price range), excursions, tour companies, restaurants, language schools, nightclubs, medical services, places to shop. Includes safety warnings, historical sidebars, great maps.
$19.95 [Members $17.95] Item #118

Chile Insight Guide

New edition of another one of the hefty Insight Guides. Essays and notes on the history, people, culture and cuisine along with all the essentials of getting there, getting around, where to stay, where to eat, things to do and buy. Good writing and lots of fabulous pictures. 353 pages. Color photos.
$22.95[Members $21.95] Item #122

Video- Chile and Easter Island

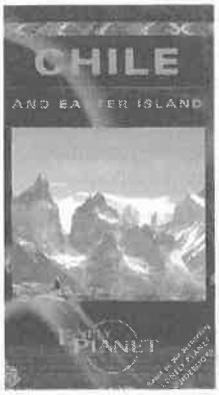
With this video, you can travel with Ian Wright from the driest desert in the world, through 3,000 miles of stunning country-side, to the southernmost point of South America. See ancient mummies, visit Easter Island, tour the lake district, climb snow-capped peaks. A visual treat. 49 minutes.
$19.95 [Members $17.95] Item #600



Chile (Lonely Planet)

WAYNE BERNHARDSON

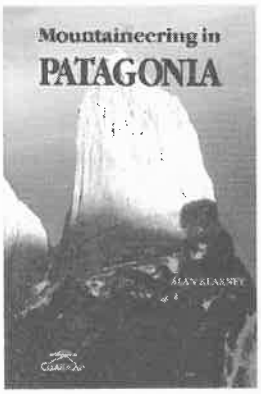
A great, 250-page introduction to Chile containing useful information on the famous Atacama, Tierra del Fuego, Chile's snow-capped volcanos, national parks, Easter Island, Patagonia, the Lake District, the fjords, boat, bus, and air travel, cities, towns, culture, and more. 2000.
$19.95[Members $17.95] Item #111



Mountaineering in Patagonia

ALAN KEARNEY

A thorough history of Patagonia's major peaks, with vibrant accounts of the author's own climbs on the same peaks. Dramatic tales of storms, bivouacs, inevitable tragedies, and more. Hardcover.
$22.95 [Member $20.95] Item # 221

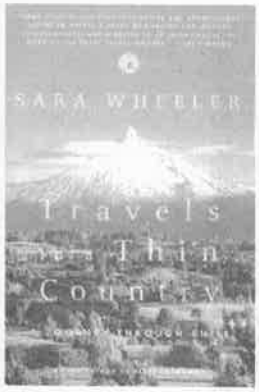


Travels in a Thin Country: A Journey through Chile

SARA WHEELER

Sara Wheeler traveled the 2,600 miles of Chile's length alone, from the driest desert in the world to the sepulchral wastes of Antarctica. Eloquent, astute, nimble with history and deftly amusing–a fine example of excellent travel writing.

$12.95 [Members $11.95] Item #249



Argentine Trout Fishing: A Fly Fisherman's Guide to Patagonia

WILLIAM C. LEITCH

The complete budget do-it-yourself guide to fishing streams and lakes of Argentina. Detailed color maps, chapters on stream geology, trout history, fishing mores, parks/reserves, regulations, guide listings, and what to take. Over 100 photographs in color.

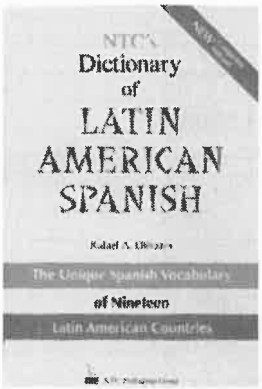
$24.95 [Members $22.95] Item #129

Dictionary of Latin American Spanish

RAFAEL A. OLIVARES

Collection of 6,000 words in Spanish and English and info on the country of origin for each word. 384 pages, paperback.

$17.95 [Members $15.95] Item #186

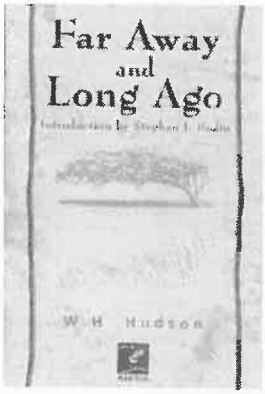


Far Away and Long Ago

WILLIAM HENRY HUDSON

A much-loved classic for generations. This memoir by the nineteenth-century naturalist William Henry Hudson covers his childhood on the pampas of Argentina. Lyrical portraits of Argentine society and resplendent descriptions of birds, snakes, dogs, trees, and flowers that reveal Hudson's fascination with natural history. Accessible and moving—highly recommended by the club.

$14.95 [Members $13.95] Item #223



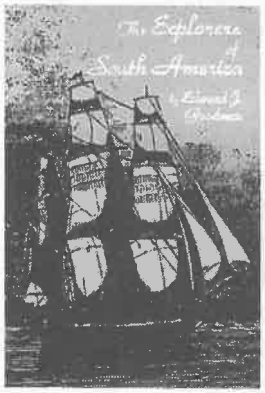
The Explorers of South America

E.J. GOODMAN

A who's who of explorers. The combination of the systematic, almost encyclopedic, coverage and Edward J. Goodman's colorful style should give this books wide appeal.

And an excellent price to boot!

List price $15.95. $7.95 Item #253



----MAPS----

Ever heard of Amazon.com? Well, we have. We're competing with them. Ever try competing toe-to-toe with a giant corporation? Ask us about it.

Well, there's more than one way to skin a cat. Look closely at the maps on this page. Then try to get one from Amazon.com. You can't! Why? Because members of South American Explorers handcarry these maps back from various secret (O.K., forget the secret) locations in South America, so we're one of the very few and sometimes the only source for these maps in the U.S. You want a map of Yanahuanca that could well mean the difference between life and death when you're hoofing about the Cordillera Huayhuash? Well, you better talk to us, not Amazon.com, not BarnesandNoble. com. Us, South American Explorers, your friendly U.S. map distributor. Get it?

	Non-MemberPrice	MemberPrice	Item Number
SOUTH AMERICA (1:15,000,000)	11.95	10.95	#403
Northwest Sheet (1:4,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#383
Northeast Sheet (1:4,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#384
Southern Sheet (1:4,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#385
ANTARCTICA (1:8,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#480
ARGENTINA (Road Map, 1:4,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#400
Aconcagua Topo (American Alpine Club)	7.00	5.00	#412
Tierra del Fuego (1:750,000)	8.95	7.95	#402
Patagonia (1:2,300,000)	15.95	14.95	#578
Valdez Peninsula (1:275,000)	15.95	14.95	#561
Monte Fitz Roy & Cerro Torre (1:50,000)	15.95	14.95	#562
BOLIVIA (1:2,000,000)	10.00	9.00	#581
Cordillera Real Map (1:135:000)	10.00	9.00	#535
Cochabamba	7.50	5.50	#404
Copacabana	7.50	5.50	#405
La Paz	7.50	5.50	#406
Potosí	7.50	5.50	#407
Tiwanaku	7.50	5.50	#409
BRAZIL (1:5,000,000)	9.00	7.00	#482
Amazon Basin (1:4,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#793
Brasil Road Map (Quatro Rodas)	14.90	13.95	#481
Guide to Rio	6.00	6.00	#488
São Paulo City Map	7.00	6.00	#490
CHILE (Road Map, 1:2,000,000)	11.95	10.95	#530
Chile & Argentina Border: Road Map	11.95	10.95	#532
Torres del Paine Trekking Map	15.95	14.95	#795
Carretera Austral (1:1,000,000)	7.00	6.00	#531
Patagonia (1:2,300,000)	15.95	14.95	#578
Easter Island (1:30,000)	8.95	7.95	#534
COLOMBIA (1:2,000,000)	16.95	15.95	#560
ECUADOR (1:1,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#401
Cuenca	7.00	6.00	#484
Quito	7.00	6.00	#582
Galápagos	7.00	6.00	#485
Guayaquil	7.00	6.00	#486
Otavalo	7.00	6.00	#579
Ecuador Topographical Maps (1:50,000)			
Alausí	8.00	7.00	#583
Cañar	8.00	7.00	#584
Cotopaxi	8.00	7.00	#586
Chauca	8.00	7.00	#574
Chimborazo	8.00	7.00	#585
Cuenca (see city map above)	8.00	7.00	#575
Juncal	8.00	7.00	#573
Laguna de Mica	8.00	7.00	#577
Mojanda	8.00	7.00	#572
Mulaló	8.00	7.00	#588
Papallacta	8.00	7.00	#576
San Pablo del Lago	8.00	7.00	#570
Sincholagua	8.00	7.00	#590
Ecuador Climbing Guides			
Cayambe	4.00	3.00	#594
Chimborazo 4.Lima City Map	8.00	7.00	#622
Cusco Tourist Guide	14.95	13.95	#413
Machu Picchu Color Site Map	6.00	5.00	#593

Peru Department Maps 1:600,000/1:200,000

Amazonas (Chachapoyas, Rio Marañon)	9.00	8.00	#630
Ancash (Huaraz, Cordillera Blanca)	9.00	8.00	#631
Apurimac (Abancay, Rio Apurimac)	9.00	8.00	#632
Arequipa (Cotahuasi, Colca Canyon)	9.00	8.00	#633
Ayacucho (Rio Apurimac)	9.00	8.00	#634
Cajamarca (Rio Marañon)	9.00	8.00	#635
Cusco (Rio Urubamba [see Cusco city map above])	9.00	8.00	#636
Huancavalica (Rio Mantaro)	9.00	8.00	#637
Huanuco (Tingo Maria)	9.00	8.00	#638
Ica (Nasca, Paracas National Reserve)	9.00	8.00	#639
Junín (Rio Tambo, Huancayo, La Merced)	9.00	8.00	#640
La Libertad (Trujillo)	9.00	8.00	#641
Lambayeque (Chiclayo)	9.00	8.00	#642
Lima (Barranca, Huaraz)	9.00	8.00	#643
Loreto (Iquitos, Rio Amazonas)	9.00	8.00	#644
Madre de Dios (Manu, Rio Tambopata)	9.00	8.00	#645
Moquegua (General Sanchez Cerro)	9.00	8.00	#646
Pasco (Yanahuanca)	9.00	8.00	#647
Piura (Huancabamba)	9.00	8.00	#648
Puno (Lake Titicaca)	9.00	8.00	#649
San Martin (Rio Huallaga)	9.00	8.00	#650
Tacna (Torata)	9.00	8.00	#651
Tumbes (Rio Tumbes)	9.00	8.00	#652
Ucayali (Pucallpa)	9.00	8.00	#653

Peru Topographical Maps (1:100,000)

Carhauz (19h)	9.00	8.00	#654
Chanquiri (26p)	9.00	8.00	#668
Chiquian	9.00	8.00	#655
Chivay (32s)	9.00	8.00	#664
Cordilleras Blanca & Huayhuash	8.00	7.00	#625
Corongo (18h)	9.00	8.00	#656
Huambo (32r)	9.00	8.00	#665
Huaraz (20h)	9.00	8.00	#662
Huari (19i)	9.00	8.00	#657
Machu Picchu (27q) (See Machu Picchu Site Map above)	9.00	8.00	#700
Huayhuash Trekking (1:80:000)	5.00	4.00	#626
Inca Trail (1:25,000)	5.00	4.00	#627
Llanganuco/Santa Cruz Trail (1:80,000)	5.00	4.00	#626
Ocongate (28t)	9.00	8.00	#658
Orcapampa (31r)	9.00	8.00	#666
Pomabanba (18i)	9.00	8.00	#663
Quillabamba (26o)	9.00	8.00	#669
Recuay (20i)	9.00	8.00	#659
Urubamba (27r)	9.00	8.00	#667
Vilcanota (Auzangate) Trail (1:50:000)	5.00	4.00	#629
Yanahuanca	9.00	8.00	#660
SURINAME (1:750,000)	8.95	7.95	#411
VENEZUELA (1:1,750,000)	8.95	7.95	#710
MEXICO (1:3,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#783
Mexico Road Atlas (1:1,000,000)	13.95	12.95	#784
CENTRAL AMERICA (1:1,800,000)	8.95	7.95	#750
Belize Map (1:350,000)	8.95	7.95	#781
Costa Rica Map (1:500,000)	8.95	7.95	#786
El Salvador Map (1:375,000)	7.95	6.95	#791
Guatemala (1:500,000)	8.95	7.95	#782
Honduras Road Map (1:750,000)	8.95	7.95	#787
Nicaragua (1:750,000)	7.95	6.95	#789
Panama Map (1:800,000)	8.95	7.95	#797
Yucatan Peninsula (1:1,000,000)	8.95	7.95	#780

Hiking and climbing in Ecuador and Peru? Not sure what topos you'll need? Take a look at our web site at www.samexplo.org, call us at 607-277-0488, or e-mail us at explorer@samexplo.org.

To order, see page 63.

Join the South American Explorers and receive all the benefits of Club membership, including four issues of the *South American Explorer*, use of our clubhouses, and discounts on books and maps!

South American Explorers Membership Categories

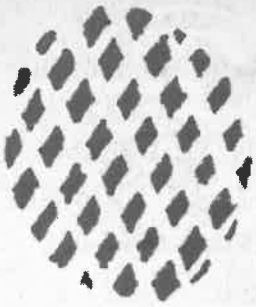
Regular ($40 individual, $70 couple): Benefits include a subscription to the *South American Explorer* (the quarterly journal of the Club), discounts on items in our catalog, a laminated rabid-bat-spittle-proof membership card, use of our information and trip planning services, storage for equipment and supplies at the Lima, Cusco, and Quito Clubhouses, and much more. A complete list of membership services is available upon request.

Contributing ($75 individual, $115 couple): Contributing Members, as the name indicates, contribute immeasurably to the general cheer and goodwill of their Club. In addition, they receive a colorful, hand-stitched arpillera.

Supporting ($150): As the name implies, these Members are virtual pillars, generously supporting their Club in its heroic efforts. Our honored Supporting Members receive a Peruvian arpillera. And, because we know that Supporting Members always welcome a thoughtful token of our appreciation, we offer these discerning individuals a book from our catalog. Finally, a Supporting Member may also bestow *two* free gift subscriptions to the *South American Explorer* at any time during the period of his/her membership.

Life ($750): Our worthy Life Members receive all the benefits of Club Membership during their mortal tour of this planet. Esteemed Life Members are encouraged to choose any one of the large selection of books from our catalog. As a final gesture of gratitude, Life Members will be sent copies of the last 15 issues of the *South American Explorer* that are in print and *ten* free gift subscriptions that may be conferred at any time.

Afterlife ($7500): As an Afterlife Member you will, of course, receive all the benefits bestowed upon Regular, Contributing, Supporting, and Life Members. In addition, when you pass into the realm beyond, you will face eternity with serenity, assured of your Club's perpetual gratitude. You will know the true meaning of immortality as you return each year to preside at the annual Club bacchanal held in your honor. Imagine the envy of your fellow spirits when they witness this outpouring of affection and devotion to your revered memory, a blessed dividend of immortality that might have been theirs had they but followed your sublime example and shown but a mote of your greatness of heart during their brief and pointless jigs upon the stage of life.



For information about SAE or travel: 607-277-0488

To place an order: 800-274-0568 Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm EST

FAX (for orders or information): 607-277-6122 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

POSTAGE & HANDLING

Domestic Orders

US $5 & under $2.00
$5.01 to $15 ..... $3.50
$15.01 to $25 ..... $5.50
$25.01 to $50 ..... $6.50
$50.01 to $75 ..... $7.95
$75.01 to $100 ..... $8.95
$100.01 to $150 .. $10.95
$150.01 to $200 .. $12.95
$200.01 to $250 .. $14.95
Over $250 ..... $16.95

NOTE: Do not include membership fee or sales tax when calculating postage and handling using above table.

When shipping to more than one address, add $3.00 to Postage and Handling. For UPS 2nd Day, add $10.00 to postage. For Next Day air, add $20.00 to postage (continental U.S. only) Allow 7-14 days for delivery in the U.S.

Foreign Orders

If your order is to be sent outside the U.S. and you are paying by Visa or Mastercard, we will add the cost of airmail to your credit card. If you want, send your order, and we will advise you of the total cost plus postage charges so you can pay by check. Foreign checks and money orders must be in U.S. funds drawn on a bank with a U.S. office.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

are available in any denomination; U.S. $10.00 minimum. Send a Gift Membership, merchandise, or free catalog to the person of your choice. Simply specify their name, address and the items you want shipped in the "Ship to" section at right.

ORDER FORM

Quantity	Item #	Item Name	Price

Subtotal _____
8% Sales Tax (NY residents only) _____
Postage and Handling _____
Membership _____
Gift Membership _____
TOTAL US $ _____

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- ❒ New Address
- ❒ New Member or Subscriber
- ❒ Renewing Membership # _____
- ❒ Don't exchange my name with other organizations

BILL TO

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Telephone _____

SHIP TO

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Telephone _____

NOTE: UPS cannot deliver to P.O. boxes

Visa/Discover/Mastercard (for orders of U.S. $15 or more)

Number _____
Expires _____ Signature _____

Or call 800-274-0568 or FAX 607-277-6122

Send payment in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank to:
South American Explorers, 126 Indian Creek Road, Ithaca, NY, 14850, USA

POSADA aventura
nature, culture and life

Experience the adventure of a lifetime in Peru's Sacred Valley of the Incas, just one hour away from Cuzco!

Hiking: Ancient Incan Terraces, Salt Mines and Graves
Biking: Spectacular Scenery of Valley and Mountains
Rafting: Floating or White Water on Urubamba River
Horseback Riding: Valley sights and organic farming communities
Participative Tourism: Meet local Andean people and experience their way of life and culture first hand.

Sonesta Posada del Inca-Yucay and **Posada Aventura** offer first class lodging in a beautiful, restored monastery and adventure packages for all skill levels and ages.

ONE NIGHT PACKAGES WITH ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS, ADVENTURE FOR TWO PERSONS STARTING FROM US $200 (including tax).

Sonasta Posadas del Inca

Look for us in the best Peruvian destinations
Mirflores - Lima
San Isidro - Lima
Cuzco
Lake Titicaca - Puno
Sacred Valley - Yucay

Opening Soon:
Mancora Beach - Nazca Lines

Telephones: 1-800-SONESTA (USA & Canada) 00800 4000 1000 (almost all Europe) 31 294-210121 (Holland, (511) 222-4777 (Peru) Fax (511) 422-4345 (Peru) **E-Mail: posada@el-olivar.com.pe**
Web-Sites: www.posada.com.pe or www.sonesta.com

South American Explorers
126 Indian Creek Road
Ithaca, New York 14850

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 999
Syracuse, NY